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JULY, 1936

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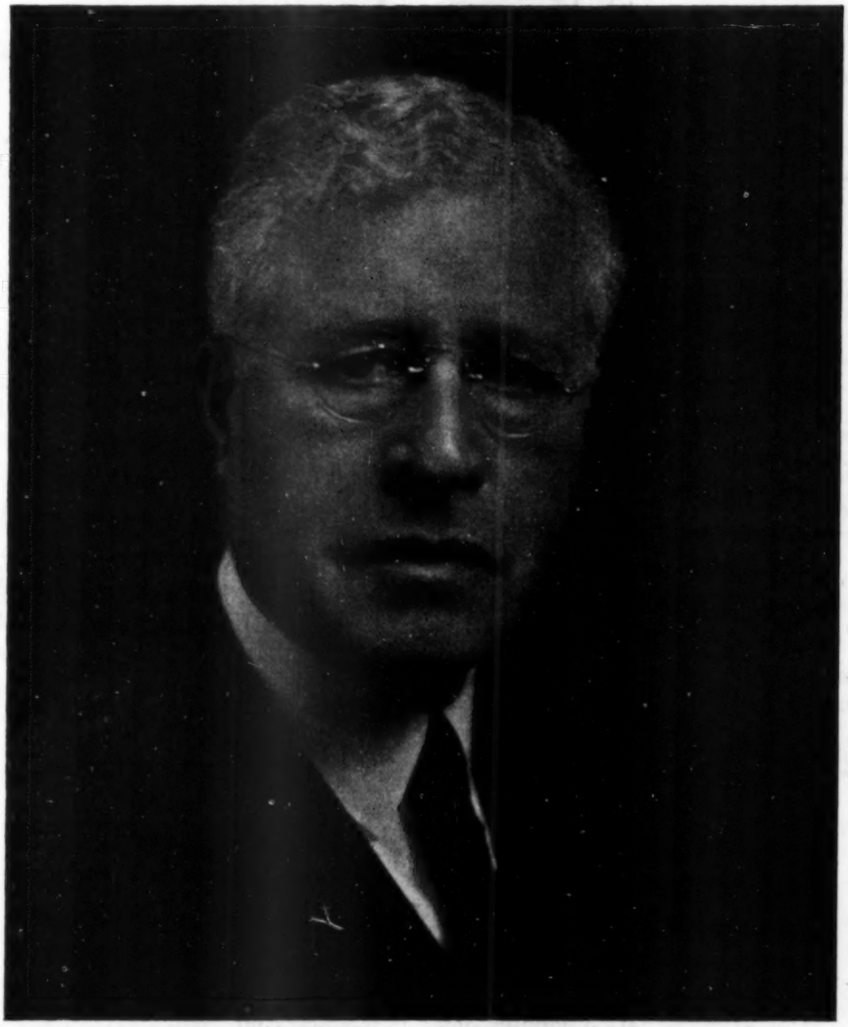

PRESIDENT JOHN HOPE

(22nd Spingarn Medalist—see page 202)

PICNIC

A STARTLING LYNCHING STORY

By Archie LeCesne

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THE CRISIS

Founded 1910
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

ROY WILKINS, Editor

ADVISORY BOARD
J. E. Spingarn *Dr. Louis T. Wright* *James Weldon Johnson* *Lewis Gannett* *Walter White*

Volume 43, No. 7 *Whole No. 307*

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NEXT MONTH

The August CRISIS will be the annual education number and will contain pictures and information about college graduates. All such material must reach THE CRISIS office not later than July 3. Do not send small snap shots, tinted pictures or group photographs. No photographs will be returned unless accompanied by postage.

There will also be an article on student activity by Lyonel Florant of Howard university.

•

A graduate student of Johns Hopkins university contributes an interesting piece of research on the efforts of slaves to free themselves, indicating, contrary to popular belief, that the Negro never accepted slavery with docility.

•

There will be a report on the proceedings of the 27th annual conference of the N.A.A.C.P. in Baltimore, an explanation of a Negro history project in the public schools of New Orleans and other features.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

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Picnic

By Archie Lescene

The parishioners held their celebration during the day and the white people their's that night

"ME I tal you, ah know wat I mean wen ah say dat bierre she is cole. Since five o'clock dis monin' dis ice I put on her, I tal you!" The old Creole tapper shook his head importantly. "I mak sho' she be one cole glass o' beer for which us drink first toast with Pére Reno," he grinned, as he manned the pump to add to the air-pressure in the barrel.

Father Pierre Renauld, or Pére Reno as he was commonly called! This picnic was in his honor. For was he not the pastor of the little country parish of St. Jeanne d' Arc, Louisiana? And wasn't this the fifth anniversary of this young colored priest's ordination, as well as his birthday? And today—wasn't he, like the Master he served so well, just thirty-three?

"Ah!" someone in the crowd cried, "dere he come now."

All eyes turned as Pére Reno, who had just finished his *Post Missam* prayers, approached them, walking arm in arm between the wavering steps of old Jacques Zeno and the sure stride of young Francois Dupré.

"Ah!" sighed many voices, deep with joy. And everybody started to speak at once. Smiling and with arms slightly raised, the priest motioned them to be quiet. His strong erect body tallied almost perfectly with that of Francois as they stood next to each other, shoulder to shoulder. *"Attendez mes amis, s'il vous plait,"* he began, and all were silent. "Now," he continued, folding his arms and beaming, "what is your wish?"

Old Zeno, acting as spokesman, stepped forward. "Mon Pére," he said, "all dis time I make dese gennemens wait fo' to drink one toast wit you, befo' I let dem draw one drop of *la bierre* from de bar-rel. And de first glass," he added, gesticulating grandiloquently, "she go to you."

Pére Reno, standing on a box, raised his glass. The group, greatly increased, did likewise. "This, *mes amis,*" he began, "is the happiest day of my life since my ordination. I . . ."

"Pére Reno! Pére Reno!" came an excited interruption. Rudely through the crowd burst an intruder. It was Antoine, *l'imbecile,* the brother of Francois, grinning and slobbering, his coarse hair tangled over his brows, his eyes popping. Francois jumped forward and grabbed Antoine roughly as if to chastise him, but Pére Reno interposed. Gently pushing the elder brother aside, and stooping, he placed a friendly arm about poor Antoine, born demented, now a man with the mind of a child.

"Now, now," coaxingly spoke the priest, "tell Pére Reno the trouble." The fool stood abashed. He tugged at his loose necktie, and grinned foolishly; suddenly, he became serious.

"Pére," he said pointing, "dem goils ovah dere, dey tease me, dey call me name." Beaming his best smile, he continued, "I lak' pretty goil lak Francois got." The crowd roared with laughter. This seemed to displease Antoine, for, after blubbering, he burst into a loud cry. "You see dem, Pére," he managed in between sobs, "dey laf at me . . . but ah show dem!" He broke away from the priest, plunged through the crowd, hollering back, with a sudden turn: "I show y' all. Dey got goils wat like me too; I show you!" And on he went, his shoulders shaking heavily.

"Let heem go," said Francois. "He all de time get mad like dat wen dey mak fun at heem. After wile he be playin' an fergit all 'bout dis."

Pére Reno watched the moving figure of Antoine thoughtfully. Turning to the crowd of men, he again took his glass of beer and proceeded to finish his toast.

The day passed on. Inside the school building, couples, young and old, swayed to the music of a violin, piano and guitar. On the school ground, only a few children scampered, for the hot afternoon sunshine was more conducive to sleep. Mothers, sitting in groups, chatting, busied themselves, chasing troublesome flies from the prostrate forms of slumbering tots. "Eh, Mam Dupré," spoke one of the matrons seated in the shade of the church building, "but where is Antoine? All day since he git mad we don' see him. You tink maybe he go home?"

"No, ma chere," answered Mam Dupré gloomily. "I don' know where dat fool boy go, and I hope he don' go home. I sen' Francois to see fo' him. I'm 'fraid so much fo' dat boy, you see . . ."

Mrs. Jones, big, buxom, and black as night, swaying her huge body and shaking her crying babe, interrupted. "Yas-as'm, Mam Dupré," she drawled, "you sho' is got 'nough to worry 'bout if dat boy gone home alone. S'pecially since he done clawed dat wite nabor o'yourn's cousin up fo' teasin' 'im. Dat wite boy sho' is been tryin' to git revenge on Antoine since dat . . . Ah don' trus' 'im." She shook her head. "Beside, dat wite boy don' like Antoine no mo' since he fin' out how good his cousin, Miss Sissy, is been treatin' 'im."

Pére Reno, who had walked up, unnoticed, and overheard the conversation, interrupted. "Well, well, ladies, and how is the day passing with you?"

"Mon Pére," said Mam Dupré, shaking her head woefully, "we was jist talkin' 'about dat po sick boy o' mine, Antoine. Since dis mornin' when he got so mad, we don' see 'im. Ah, here comes Francois now, maybe he got some news."

"Mom, mom," exhaled Francois in exasperation, "I can' fin' dat boy no ware. All day I don' have time to be wit Marie five minute on count o' lookin fo' heem."

"Don't worry, my children," Peré Reno spoke up kindly. "I'm sure Antoine must be sulking about the grounds somewhere. I'll search for him myself." Turning to Francois, "As for your Marie, young man," he said, shaking his finger and smiling jestingly, "in another two weeks you will have your whole life to spend with her; so run along to her now and begin to make up for lost time." The group laughed heartily.

It was now five o'clock. Wagons and carriages were being loaded in preparation for leaving. Menacing clouds had hidden the sun from view and a slight east wind predicted rain. In spite of this, the joy of the people was still supreme. The celebration was working to a climax.

Now everybody was ready to depart. Madame Dupré stood near her son's old Ford. She was wringing her hands, patting her foot, and shaking her head. Marie and Francois tried to console her.

Presently the sound of many voices rang out and all eyes turned in the direction of an approaching crowd. There, coming down the middle of the yard, was as solemn a procession as was ever seen. A member of the choir, Lazare Bisson, his deep rich baritone voice accompanied by a guitar, was singing the *Psalms*. Little children, leading the procession, spread garlands of clovers and hyacinth. Urchins ran in and out the line of march, throwing twigs and bits of grass in the path. Finally the cause of it all came into view. Old

Jacques Zeno, leading his burro "Pete," equally as old as Zeno himself, strutted in tempo with the singing. Astride old "Pete" sat Pére Reno. He was riding like a king in all his glory. He was a king; more than a king to these simple, God-loving countryfolk—his people whom he was glad to humor. It was he who christened their young, married their sons and daughters, comforted their sick and buried their dead. No problem of theirs, no matter how big or small, but was his. He guided them unerringly. They cherished him, they would die for him, and they knew, too, that Pére Reno would do the same for them. It was logic to glorify him to the best of their poor ability.

This parade of affection, in all its sublime absurdity, was in utter sincerity. Eyes dimmed with age, eyes bright with the bloom of youth, eyes dewy with the sheen of childhood, all appraised their pastor loyally.

The last strains of the song died out as the procession reached the end of the yard. Pére Reno now went about thanking and bidding goodbye to his parishioners. Walking up to Madame Dupré, he patted her hands gently. "He could not be found, dear lady," he said, "but don't worry. I'm sure you'll find him when you arrive at home." Then turning toward Francois who, a short distance away, was bidding goodbye to Marie and her parents, "Francois!" he called out.

"Oui, Pére Reno, I come," answered Francois, and in a few strides he stood next to the priest.

"Francois," the latter whispered, "if you shall not have found him, let me know, will you?" Then he spoke loudly so that Madame Dupré could hear. "And, Francois, when you get home, tell Antoine to come to work for me tomorrow morning, please."

The wagons and carriages, amidst many "giddaps" and *"Vien donc's,"* pulled off. Mothers and fathers and children, young and old, waved goodbye. Francois and his mother were the last to leave. Pére Reno stood in the middle of the road, gazing pensively as the caravan wound slowly down the road.

It was fast growing dark, and near seven o'clock when the priest sat down to supper. Eating was impossible. He picked at his food, a nibble here and there. Suddenly he dropped his fork and gazed straight ahead in deep thought. Madame Rey, the housekeeper of the rectory, bringing in the dessert, stopped on the threshold of the dining room.

"Mais, Pére," she exclaimed scoldingly, "wat's de matter, don' you feel good? You look pale." Then hastily relieving herself of the plate held in her hands, she came closer. The priest lifted his eyes, shook his head, and slowly said, with a wan smile, "My mind tells me that this day has been too happy to go unspoiled."

"Ah, but mon Pére," answered the housekeeper, throwing out her hands, "Ah don' believe in dat, me. You worryin' 'bout dat fool boy." And in a soft maternal manner, placing her fingers ever so lightly on the priest's shoulder, she continued, "Pére Reno, maybe you tired, oui? Too much bom-bo-shay today at the celabra-shon. You go right up stair an' rest. Later on I bring you some hot tea."

Father Renauld rose from the table abstractedly. Two hours later, when Madame Rey mounted the stairs to the study, she glimpsed him, through a crack in the partly opened door, kneeling, his hands tightly clasped, his face dimly outlined by the flicker of a lighted candle which stood before a crucifix, his eyes tightly closed. He was praying aloud. Beads of perspiration stood out on his forehead. The steady drizzle of rain beat against the window panes. His voice came like a gash in the silence: "My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from me. Nevertheless not as I will but as thou wilt."

What could he mean? The old housekeeper watched a moment and lifted her hand to tap on the door. Suddenly the front door bell sounded. The first ring, a long one, was followed by several short stabs; then came a series of bangs, as if someone were trying to break the door down. Then silence.

Meanwhile, at the first sound, Madame Rey had placed the tray upon a table in the hall. She was half way down the stairs when Pére Reno bounded past her down to the entrance. Switching on the light, he unbolted the door.

The figure of a man, muddy, dirty, grime caking his features, slumped forward. His black hunting cap which was pulled over his eyes, and the dirty brown hunting jacket, with its upturned collar, had partly concealed his identity.

Annual Education Number

The August Crisis will be the annual education number, containing news and pictures of college graduates. The Crisis regrets that space will not permit the inclusion of pictures and information of high school graduates. All material for the education number must be in The Crisis office not later than July 3. We do not guarantee to return pictures unless they are accompanied by stamps.

The priest looked closer. It was Francois Dupré.

Father Renauld half-dragged him into the parlor. The housekeeper, anxious to be of some service, had brought in a pan of water but the priest dismissed her. In a few minutes, Francois had managed to compose himself sufficiently to talk. His eyes bulged. His cheeks were hollows. He cringed like an animal cornered and surrounded by hounds.

"Pére Reno," he began, falling on his knees, wringing his hands, "give me ab-so-lu-shun, Pére Reno! Dey gon' kill me; dey comin fo' me, Pére Reno!"

His body was aspen with sobs. Bit by bit, between spasms and gulps, the priest drew the story from Francois Dupré. He had found Antoine wandering through the cane fields, gibbering that Miss Sissy, the white neighbor's daughter was dead—dead—and lay not far away. In horror and fear, he sent "the fool" home and went searching. Suddenly he came upon the body. A cousin of the slain girl, finding the unnerved youth there, loudly accused him of the crime; and now the whole of the white section of the country side, inflamed and maddened, sought blood in the customary southern manner.

"But I tal' you, Pére Reno, I sware befo' God I don' do dat. My brother, he crazy . . ., but I know he don' do dat neider. But Pére," he exclaimed, crawling on his knees terror stricken, "dey gon' kill me, Pére!"

Father Renauld quieted him as best he could and, putting on his stole, he heard his confession and absolved him. For a moment both men prayed. When they had finished, the priest, removing his stole and cassock, called for his hat and overcoat.

"But Pére Reno," began the housekeeper indignantly, "you can' go out in dis rain like dat." The priest ignored her, put on his hat and coat, and walking to his desk, took from it all the money that was there. Grabbing Francois by the arm, he commanded simply, "Come." An hour later two men stood on the high levee of the mighty Mississippi. Father Renauld pointed to the opposite shore where the dim lights of the city flickered. A pirogue lay beside them on the ground. "Francois," said the priest, gravely handing the money to him and pointing, "across there, lies freedom. Here, take this. You are strong. Row across. Go, and God bless you."

"But Pére! My *mom-mom,* and Marie?"

"Don't worry about them, Francois," bade the priest with emphasis. "I'll care for them until you can join each other again." Then, commandingly, "Now go . . . hurry."

Francois looked at the priest for a

(*Continued on page* 210)

N.A.A.C.P.—Welcome to Baltimore!

By Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr.

Early in the history of the N.A.A.C.P., when its annual conferences were little more than committee meetings, a gathering was held in Baltimore, Md. This June, after more than twenty years have elapsed, the N.A.A.C.P. is returning to Maryland and from the looks of things the conference will be a memorable one

THE welcome sign, always present in this hospitable old city on Chesapeake Bay, has been dusted off, polished anew and hung in plain sight for the hundreds of delegates expected here for the 27th annual conference of the N. A. A. C. P. June 29 to July 5.

For Baltimore, which is not easily excited, is really stirred over the N. A. A. C. P., and all types of citizens and organized groups, both white and colored, are cooperating to stage the biggest conference in the history of the association. The N. A. A. C. P. spirit always has been here—the late Bishop John Hurst was a member of the national board of directors for many years and his stalwart and uncompromising work for the association is still remembered throughout the country. At present Editor Carl Murphy of the *Afro-American* is a member of the board and his attitude is too well known to Baltimoreans and to his thousands of readers to need elaboration here. But today's enthusiasm for the N. A. A. C. P. in Baltimore is something one meets on all sides.

From the governor of the state, who has just appointed an official welcome committee, to the mayor of the city, who will welcome the delegates at the opening session, to the local undertaker who is bearing the expense of all printed advertisements, to the local radio stations which will give special programs during the week, everyone seems determined to put forth a special effort to please the many delegates and visitors expected.

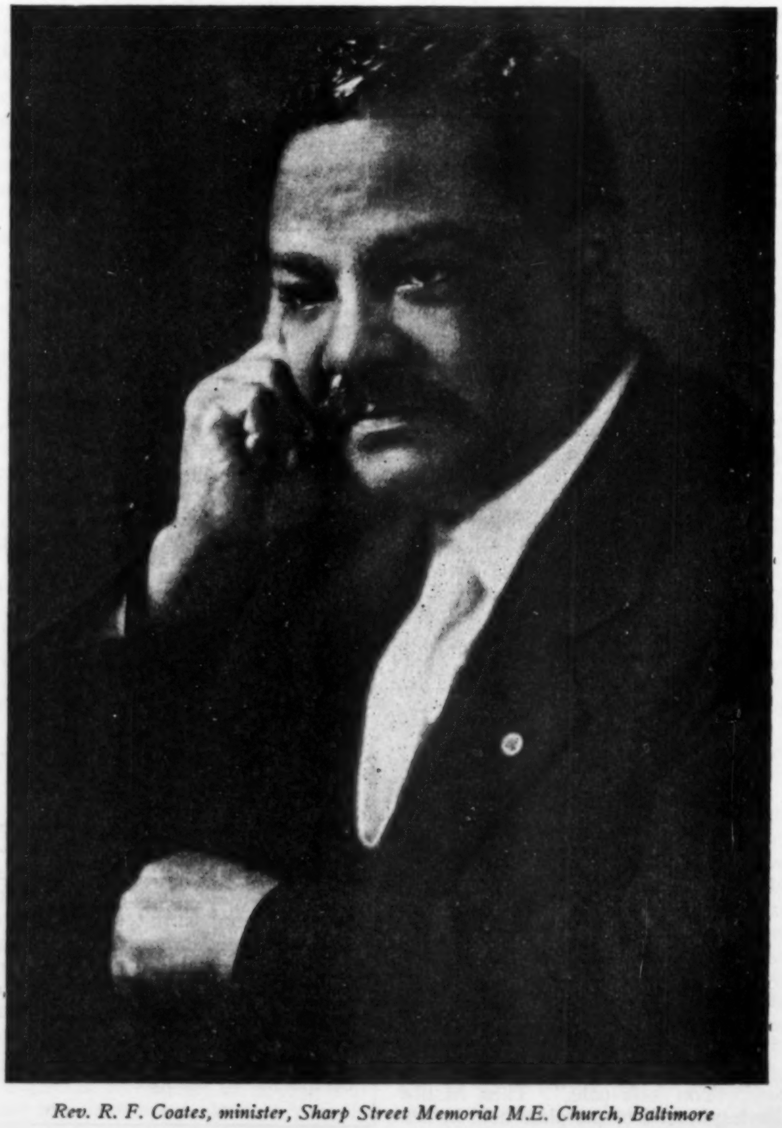
Under the leadership of Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, the new branch president who is completing her first executive year, and a hard-working executive committee, the Baltimore branch has made all Maryland conscious of the N. A. A. C. P. during the last eight months.

Nearly 2,500 members are now on the record books of the branch. Mass meetings have been held throughout the city of Baltimore and in many of the surrounding counties. Baltimore has responded well to the financial appeals from the national office and led the country in the sale of Christmas seals.

The victory in the University of Maryland case has awakened Baltimoreans to the necessity of supporting the N. A. A. C. P. All Maryland is jubilant over the fact that through this case it is the first southern state to smash the color barrier in a state-supported educational institution.

At present, under the leadership of their legal counsel, Thurgood Marshall, and Charles H. Houston of the national staff, the branch is raising funds to fight for county high school educational opportunities for Negro children. Maryland's richest county, Baltimore County, where there are eleven white high schools and no colored, is the first point of attack. A writ of mandamus is being sought that will require the board of education to admit Miss Margaret Williams, a colored pupil, to the high school at Catonsville, Md.

This means that delegates will not only find a branch that is alive and alert, but they will also be in a com-



Rev. R. F. Coates, minister, Sharp Street Memorial M.E. Church, Baltimore munity which has become one of the battlegrounds of the N. A. A. C. P.

Housing, Entertainment

Baltimore is famous for her home life and her beautiful residential districts. Through the work of Mrs. Bertha Proctor, chairman of the housing committee of the conference, delegates and their friends will enjoy the comfort and hospitality of some of the finest of homes. Few, if any of the guests, however, will know that many of these houses were open to colored owners only after a bitter fight.

As the Negro residential area widened and embraced new sections such as McCulloh street, Madison avenue, and Sanford place, many problems with white residents arose.

Some had the temerity to say that a white man has as much right to object to living next to a Negro as he has to object to being next to a horse stable. Only court fights and actual physical battles stopped white opposition in many instances. There are still sections, however, where the blood of the hundred per centers boils at the thought of colored people in decent homes.

Baltimore is a harbor city. It grew up from the waterfront like a multilegged devil fish that decided to yawn and spread in all directions. Shipping activities still play a great part in the city's industrial life.

Delegates will get a glimpse of the busy Baltimore harbor, where Norwegian freighters send rolling swells under puffing tugs and smug excursion boats, where the east and the west do meet. Through the efforts of Mrs. Josiah Diggs, chairman of the entertainment committee, the whole conference will take a cruise on the Steamer Avolon down Chesapeake Bay, Saturday, July 4. The resting point will be Harlem beach, where there will be facilities for testing the friendly waters of the Chesapeake, tasting the delicious Maryland fried chicken and seafood, and dancing to the lilting melodies of Baltimore's best orchestras.

Industrial Center

Unlike its sister, Charleston, farther south, Baltimore has made rapid strides forward in industry, commerce and the mechanic arts. Steel mills, sugar refineries, and more recently an automobile factory are among the activities of our workers.

Yet, with all the bustle and hurry of Lexington, Charles and Baltimore streets, the shopping centers, there are still quiet squares and parks where nature elbows out architecture, and indolence is a virtue.

The colored population has played an important part in making Baltimore a haven for thriving businesses. Clayton Coleman Hall, in his history of Baltimore, says:

"Many of the colored citizens were thrifty enough to amass small fortunes during the years that followed the Civil War. Almost all of the city's barber shops were owned by them and one company operated a small marine railway on which ships were raised and caulked."

City businesses have rapidly expanded to the point where they are a credit to their founders, although they are still far from the fond dreams of those who like to envision an economically secure Negro population in Baltimore.

The largest, most carefully run and one of the most progressive of our businesses is the *Afro-American,* long recognized as one of the most powerful newspaper forces in the East because of its great appeal to the colored population.

No visitor of the conference should pass up the opportunity of seeing its new engraving plant, its humming offices, the press in the whirring motion of printing papers for eager readers, and Editor Carl Murphy who is responsible for its success.

The Metropolitan Finance Corporation, at 1940 Pennsylvania avenue must be included on the list of businesses which delegates must see. It is a new type of capital investment and marks the entry of the colored man into the field of making small loans and financing purchases.

The Wilson Bank at 407 W. Franklin street is the lone Negro bank in the state. In spite of the severity of the depression there was never any question of its stability during the trying years.

Baltimore comes in for its share of fine insurance companies which offer employment for Baltimore's colored population.

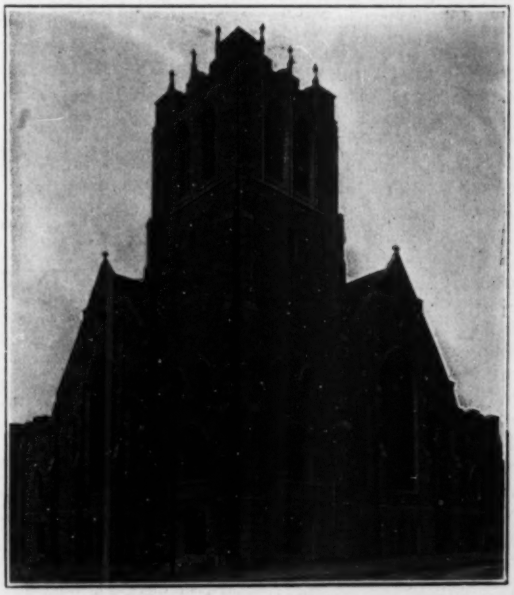
New avenues of employment are sorely needed in Baltimore. The white collar workers are a few civil service men in the post office, a large number of school teachers, a few social workers, and persons employed by colored businesses. Most of the population is in the unskilled bracket. We have no police and no firemen.

Active Youth Group

Baltimoreans are lovers of church life, and Sharp Street Memorial M. E. Church, the structure in which sessions of the conference are to be held, was built at the cost of $90,000 and has a $110,000 community house adjoining it. Its founders, weary of meeting in the galleries of white buildings, constructed a place where they might worship without insult. One of the first colored schools of the city was in this church. Morgan college, from whose rolling hills and stone buildings have come many of the Negro leaders today, had its birth in Sharp Street M. E. church. There are many beautiful churches owned by colored citizens which delegates will want to see.

Delegates will find Baltimore's youth alert, active and in the vanguard. For Baltimore is the home of the nationally-known City-Wide Young People's Forum which has recently completed its fifth year of activity as a center of education and action in the life of the community. It was through this forum that

(*Continued on page* 208)



The Sharp Street Memorial M.E. Church, Dolphin and Etting Streets, Baltimore, Md., where the conference sessions will be held

Spingarn Medal to John Hope

THE twenty-second Spingarn Medal for 1935 was awarded posthumously to Dr. John Hope, president of Atlanta university, by the Spingarn medal award committee of which Oswald Garrison Villard is chairman.

The medal is donated annually by J. E. Spingarn, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to be awarded to the colored citizen adjudged to have made the greatest achievement in the previous year or years in some line of endeavor. This is the first time in the history of the awarding of the medal that it has been given posthumously. The committee's explanation of the award was that Dr. Hope, who for many years was a member of the award committee, was adamant in his opposition to the medal being awarded to himself. It is known that he was nominated on several occasions.

The language of the award follows:

"A distinguished leader of his race, one of the foremost college presidents in the United States, widely and favorably known throughout the educational world, John Hope was admired wherever he went because of his wisdom, his tact, his skill in negotiation, his solid contribution to any conference in which he sat, his remarkable modesty, and his untiring service to both races in the United States.

"A graduate of Brown university, he dedicated his life to the teaching of colored youth. First a president of Morehouse college from 1906 to 1931, he had served at Atlanta university in the same capacity since 1928. Under his presidency occurred the epoch-making amalgamation of Morehouse and Laura Spelman colleges and Atlanta university in which group Atlanta now stands as the foremost Negro graduate school. His achievements in this field were attended by honorary degrees from Brown and Bates colleges and Bucknell, McMaster and Howard universities. But his activities were not confined to education alone. For one year he rendered distinguished service among the colored troops in France as a representative of the Y. M. C. A. At one time president, he was a director of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation which has made such remarkable contributions to improving the relations of the two races. He was president of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and of the Georgia State Council for Work Among Negro Boys, a distinguished figure in the Baptist World Alliance and in the work of the Y. M. C. A. and the N. A. A. C. P.

"But it is the fineness of Dr. Hope's personality the committee wishes especially to commemorate as well as the admirable example he set, and not only to members of his own race. In the dignity and steadfastness of his bearing, in the quiet, but unyielding strength of his character, and his championship of the right of the Negro to the highest education available, and to equality of treatment in accordance with his rights under the Constitution of the United States, Dr. Hope proved in himself that there are no bounds nor limits to be set for men and women because of the accident of their color."

Dr. Hope was long recognized as one of the foremost leaders among colored people and one of its outstanding educators. He had devoted his entire life since he graduated from Brown university in 1884 to the education of Negro youth. He was a teacher at Roger Williams college at Nashville and later at Atlanta Baptist college which is now known as Morehouse college. His skill as administrator was demonstrated during his presidency at Morehouse college from 1906 to 1931 when the enrollment, budget, buildings and equipment increased to a new high level. In the last few years, under his direction, Atlanta university became the first graduate school for Negroes in the South. Morehouse college and Spelman college became the undergraduate schools of the greater Atlanta university group.

In addition to his work as an educator Dr. Hope was active in civic affairs and was one of the first national directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Other Spingarn medal winners:

1. **Professor E. E. Just,** head of the department of physiology of Howard University Medical School. Presented February 12, 1915, by Charles S. Whitman, Governor of New York. Award for researches in biology.

2. **Major Charles Young,** U. S. Army. Presented February 22, 1916, at Tremont Temple, Boston, Mass., by Samuel Walker McCall, Governor of Massachusetts. Award for services in organizing the Liberian constabulary and developing roads of the Republic of Liberia.

3. **Harry T. Burleigh,** composer, pianist, singer. Presented May 16, 1917, in Washington, D. C., by United States Senator Wesley L. Jones of Washington. Award for excellence in the field of creative music.

4. **William Stanley Braithwaite,** poet, literary critic and editor. Presented May 3, 1918, in the First Baptist Church of Providence, R. I., by R. Livingstone Beeckman, Governor of Rhode Island. Award for distinguished achievement in literature.

5. **Archibald H. Grimké,** former U. S. Consul in Santo Domingo; President American Negro Academy; author; President of the District of Columbia Branch, N.A.A.C.P. Presented June 27, 1919, in Cleveland, Ohio, by Charles F. Thwing, President of Western Reserve University. Award for seventy years of distinguished services to his country and his race.

6. **William E. Burghardt Du Bois,** author; editor of "The Crisis." Presented June 1, 1920, on the campus of Atlanta University, by Bishop John Hurst. Award for the founding and calling together of the Pan-African Congress.

7. **Charles S. Gilpin,** actor. Presented June 30, 1921, in Detroit, Mich., at the 12th annual conference of the N.A.A.C.P. to Mr. Gilpin by proxy, as illness prevented his appearance, the presentation being made by a representative of the Governor of Michigan; later presented in New York City to Mr. Gilpin by Mr. Spingarn in person. Award for his achievement in the title role of Eugene O'Neill's play, "Emperor Jones."

8. **Mary B. Talbert,** former President of the National Association of Colored Women. Presented June 20, 1922, in Newark, N. J., by Rabbi Solomon Foster of Newark. Award for service to the women of her race and for the restoration of the home of Frederick Douglass.

9. **George W. Carver,** head of the Department of Research and Experiment Station of Tuskegee Institute. Presented September 4, 1923, at Kansas City, Kansas, by Hon. Charles B. Griffith, Attorney-General of Kansas. Award for distinguished research in agricultural chemistry.

10. **Roland Hayes,** singer. Presented July 1, 1924, at Philadelphia, Pa., by Dr. Josiah H. Penniman, Provost and President of the University of Pennsylvania. The presentation was by proxy due to the absence of Mr. Hayes in Europe. Personal presentation was made April 7, 1925, in New York City by Mr. Walter Damrosch of the New York Symphony. Award for "reputation which he has gained as a singer in England, Germany and France and especially in America where he was last year soloist for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, . . . and because in all his singing Mr. Hayes has so finely interpreted the beauty and charm of the Negro folk song."

11. **James Weldon Johnson,** former U. S. Consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua; former editor; Secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. Presented June 30, 1925, by Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois. Awarded to Mr. Johnson as author, diplomat and public servant.

12. **Carter G. Woodson,** for ten years' devoted service in collecting and publishing records of the Negro in America, culminating in the publication of "Negro Orators and Their Orations" and "Free Negro Heads of Families in the United States in 1830." Presented June 29, 1926, by Dr. John Haynes Holmes.

13. **Anthony Overton,** "because of his success in a long business career and for the crowning achievement of securing the admission of the Victory Life Insurance Company as the first Negro organization permitted to do insurance business under the rigid requirements of the State of New York." Presented June 28, 1927, at Indianapolis, Ind., by Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois.

14. **Charles W. Chestnutt,** for his "pioneer work as a literary artist depicting the life and struggle of Americans of Negro descent, and for his long and useful career as scholar, worker and freeman of one of America's greatest cities." Presented July 3, 1928, at Los Angeles, Calif., by Hon. Buron R. Fitts, Lieutenant-Governor of California.

15. **Mordecai Wyatt Johnson,** President of Howard University, "for his successful administration as first Negro President of the leading Negro University in America, and especially for his leadership in securing, during the past year, legal authority for appropriations to Howard University by the government of the United States." Presented July 2, 1929, at Cleveland, O., by Dr. Charles F. Thwing, President Emeritus of Western Reserve University.

16. **Henry A. Hunt,** Principal of Fort Valley High and Industrial School, Fort Valley, Georgia, "for twenty-five years of modest, faithful, unselfish and devoted service in the education of Negroes of rural Georgia, and to the teaching profession in that state." Presented July 1, 1930, at Springfield, Mass., by Dr. William Allan Neilson, President of Smith College.

17. **Richard Berry Harrison,** "whose fine and reverent characterization of the Lord in Marc Connelly's play, 'The Green Pastures' has made that play the outstanding dramatic accomplishment of America in the year 1930. But the Medal is given to Mr. Harrison not simply for this crowning accomplishment, but for the long years of his work as dramatic reader and entertainer, interpreting to the mass of colored people in church and school the finest specimens of English drama from Shakespeare down. It is fitting that in the sixty-seventh year of his life he should receive widespread acclaim for a role that typifies and completes his life work." Presented March 22, 1931, by Hon. Herbert H. Lehman, Lieutenant-Governor of the State of New York.

18. **Robert R. Moton,** Tuskegee Institute. Presented May 20, 1932, by Hon. Bronson Cutting, U. S. Senator from New Mexico.

19. **Max Yergan,** for ten years American Y.M.C.A. secretary among the native students of

(*Continued on page* 210)

Harlem WPA Group Sings Opera

By Levi C. Hubert

Nearly everyone has heard of the Harlem WPA theatre production of Shakespeare's "Macbeth." This is an account of a Harlem WPA choral group's rendition of grand opera

IN THE spring of 1935 Minto Cato and her group of choralites were beginning to achieve a reputation. In the spring of 1936 they achieved it. The story of the year between spans the gap between spirituals and opera, between a group of amateurs painfully practicing in a small room, and a group of seasoned singers, pouring out with ease the soaring notes of Il Trovatore.

Yet it is not a long story. In 1934, to be sure, there was a Minto Cato, and there was an opera called Il Trovatore. But there were no Minto Cato choralites. To bring them, as a group, into being and then to accomplish the difficult introduction to opera was Miss Cato's task, and the crowds who recently cheered her, the Choralites and Il Trovatore at the Manhattan theatre will tell you that she did it well.

Minto Cato's career, in the ten years previous to 1933, embraced almost every field of music, but it was on the musical comedy stage that she became best known, in Lew Leslie's "Blackbirds" and "Connie's Hot Chocolates."

But in 1933 the necessity of caring for a widowed mother and six younger brothers forced her to remain in New York when the show took to the road. She became musical director of Ashland Place Y.W.C.A. in Brooklyn, and in 1934 transferred to the West 137th Street branch in Harlem.

Within a year her students had become a fine *a capella* choir. In August, 1935, the Choralites received first prize for excellence in their division at the city-wide music festival in the Polo Grounds, and Miss Cato's work had begun to bear fruit.

In September of 1935 Miss Cato told the story of Il Trovatore to the pupils in her music appreciation classes, and the great venture was begun. They had no idea of how or when they would produce the Verdi masterpiece, but the will to do it was there, and Miss Cato was certain she would find a way.

They studied hard, learning the story of the wandering troubador, the vengeful gypsy and the famed triangle of which the three corners were Leonora, the Count di Luna and Manrico. That mastered, they turned under their director's skillful guidance to the vocal themes of the opera, using an English libretto, and soon would-be singers who hadn't known *fa* from *do* were trying their voices on arias and choruses.

They came night after night, these eager amateurs, to hear Miss Cato expound the mysteries of operatic singing. So enthusiastic did they become in fact, that at their own request they were taken to hear the stars of Metropolitan sing the very roles which they hoped some day to perform. They studied every gesture, every pose and attitude of the people who had spent their professional careers singing just such roles, and they learned a great deal.

The practice went on, hour after hour, day after day. Faults in tone and diction were overcome, song with movement and gestures was mastered, because Miss Cato had seen a vision and had convinced her pupils that if enough hard work were expended and a certain degree of perfection attained, the great chance would be given them.

In February of this year the directors of the WPA Federal Music Project conceived the idea of a week of music to take place in May, which would demonstrate to New York the results achieved in the teaching and appreciation of music under the Works Progress Administration. Music centers the city over were combed thoroughly and outstanding examples of skill and proficiency were selected to form the program of the May Music Festival of the music project.

Madame Charlotte Lunn, supervisor of opera in WPA, had taken downtown stories of a group in Harlem which actually was rehearsing Il Trovatore. Ashley Pettis, of the WPA Federal Music Project, listened to these tales, came uptown and saw for himself.

He listened while an energetic woman taught by rote the correct melody and words to a group of young people whose desire to learn compensated for their lack of previous vocal training.

Mr. Pettis immediately became convinced that here was the end of his search for the climax to the festival week. Minto Cato and her young people had won.

Arrangements were completed for rehearsals with a symphony orchestra; Stivanella and Sons, suppliers to the Metropolitan Opera Company, rented the costumes, accurate scenery was constructed, and in the case of one of the principals, whose voice was without sufficient volume, a special coach was provided.

When the May Music Festival opened

(*Continued on page* 214)

Minto Cato and Parker Watkins as Azucena and Manrico in the Gypsy scene of Il Trovatore

The World Issue of Race

By Horace Holley

THE movements of world opinion during recent months have given to the question of race relations so vital an emphasis that it must be recognized as one of the paramount issues confronting this age.

Historically, race as immediate biological or blood bond was during a long period identical with those other bonds upon which a society rests—the bond of economic interest, of cultural unity, of religious affiliation and of that common government, whether of nation or tribe, upon which internal justice and external defense directly depends.

There is no doubt but that mankind passed through an epoch when all the major values of civilization—law and order, family kinship, spiritual worship, education, language, food and shelter and military protection—were extensions of one and the same natural and instinctive grouping of human beings within the family circle.

The evolution of civilization has gradually separated the experience of blood kinship from the other social functions necessary to community existence. The modern nation has succeeded in dissolving age-long sources of separation and hostility—language, culture and race—and in a larger loyalty to the common institutions of law and order, the original organic family unit has abandoned its sense of exclusiveness and militant isolation. Life has developed from the realm of instinct (i.e., unconscious association) to the realm of reason (i.e., volitional and conscious association).

The status of citizenship has in fact replaced blood relationship as the source of the individual's social personality throughout the greater part of the modern world. Nationality therefore represents a vast advance toward true civilization in comparison with that primitive tribalism which gave to language, culture, religion, government and the economic process an arbitrarily limited social area. When protesting the negative aspects of modern nationalism, the student of international relations must hold the balance true by realizing how many previous organized centers of conflict and disturbance have become at least partly reconciled within the jurisdiction of the modern state. Only a few hundred years ago England was a number of competitive kingdoms, and the France of today includes a large number of races that for centuries were bitterly opposed.

This is a reprint of an editorial in* World Order, *the official magazine of the Baha'i Movement in America

The race problem today reveals two different aspects: it intensifies a spirit of hostility arising not from race relations but from the conflict of states—a by-product of nationalism in its negative, aggressive manifestation; and it intensifies that antagonism among citizens of the same state whose ultimate source is economic competition. The race problem, then, stands as a major world issue for the sole reason that it supplies a constant source of instinctive hatred and jealousy, a mighty reservoir of unthinking antagonism, employed to deepen and to justify every social hostility created by the international chaos in which we live. It is one form of the primitive within every individual and every social group springing to action when the bestial-human element is aroused. Race prejudice is not a direct but an indirect factor in human strife, and for that very reason it is the more sinister when its unconscious powers are aroused.

The Baha'i approach to this problem of race relations is spiritual and therefore universal. Baha'u'llah interprets the true history of religion to mean that man's social personality, at its highest and best, derives not from one's status as citizen but from one's status as member of one divine Faith.

Christendom, when true to the teaching of its Founder, was a community of believers who admitted one another into a relationship far more intimate and sacred than that of the biological family, far more significant than that of a common legal government, far more influential than that of a mutual trade or economic class. Faith in its purity unites the souls of men and unites them for peace in all contacts and associations, and therefore faith is the sole human tie which can remain unbroken under the onslaught of political, economic, cultural or biological antagonism.

The Baha'is of the world, because they share one divine Faith that knows no boundary of race or creed or nation or class, have already within their own religious community, spread throughout forty countries, solved the race problem which outside this community poisons the very springs of human emotion. When one becomes a Baha'i, one enters a new and higher realm of reality where the world's traditional values have no influence. As among the early Christians, as among the pioneers of Islam, the Baha'is are members of a new body, and in their spiritual relationship they leave their artificial social relationships forever behind.

Once again the holy and incorruptible flame of faith has been enkindled in the heart of the world, lighted by the One who brings the heavenly fire to a cold and darkened earth. Once again a community of believers is created whose manners and customs are reflections of the soul and not of the flesh. This new status of believer revolutionizes all human intercourse because it is only the Fatherhood of God which can establish the brotherhood of man.

While the races and nations respond in agitation to the superficial news and trends of the age, the Baha'is are remolding their minds and hearts by turning to the teachings of Baha'u'llah: "The incomparable Creator hath created all men from one same substance, and hath exalted their reality above the rest of His creatures. Success or failure, gain or loss, must, therefore, depend upon man's own exertions . . . It beseemeth all men, in this Day, to take firm hold on the Most Great Name, and to establish the unity of all mankind. There is no place to flee to, no refuge that any one can seek, except Him."

Forty New Clerks in Department of Labor

Continuing the policy adopted in 1935 of employing and integrating qualified Negroes in clerical positions, the Department of Labor approved the appointment of an additional forty clerks recently. These appointments to clerical positions increase the number of Negro employees in the Department of Labor to a total of one hundred and twenty-nine persons. The work to which these clerks have been assigned is related to one of the most important research projects carried on by the Government at this time, the United States Employment Service Perpetual Inventory.

Youth Conference Meets

The First Annual Youth Conference in the Northwest was held June 6-7 at the Phyllis Wheatley House in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Hallie Q. Brown House in St. Paul.

Negroes and the Texas Centennial

By Jesse O. Thomas

Even though it has a population of about 900,000 Negroes, the state of Texas made no plans to include them in its Centennial celebration this year. However, some federal funds were secured by someone, through some source, and 17 per cent of the state's population will have some exhibits, after all

THE state of Texas is celebrating its 100 years of independence from Mexico. For the first time in the history of America, the federal government has appropriated $100,000 to enable Negroes to participate in a historical celebration of the independence or achievement of a state or any other political sub-division where the money is to be spent under the leadership and direction of Negroes themselves. The only other occasion where the government has made a similar appropriation was in connection with the Jamestown Exposition, Jamestown, Virginia. This money, however, was not spent under the direction or control of Negro leadership.

The $100,000 allocated by the government to be spent by Negroes in the Texas Centennial is divided into two important divisions, $50,000 to construct an exhibits building and $50,000 for the assembling and collection of exhibits and the transporting and installing of exhibits in the building, and for such administratve details as will be required.

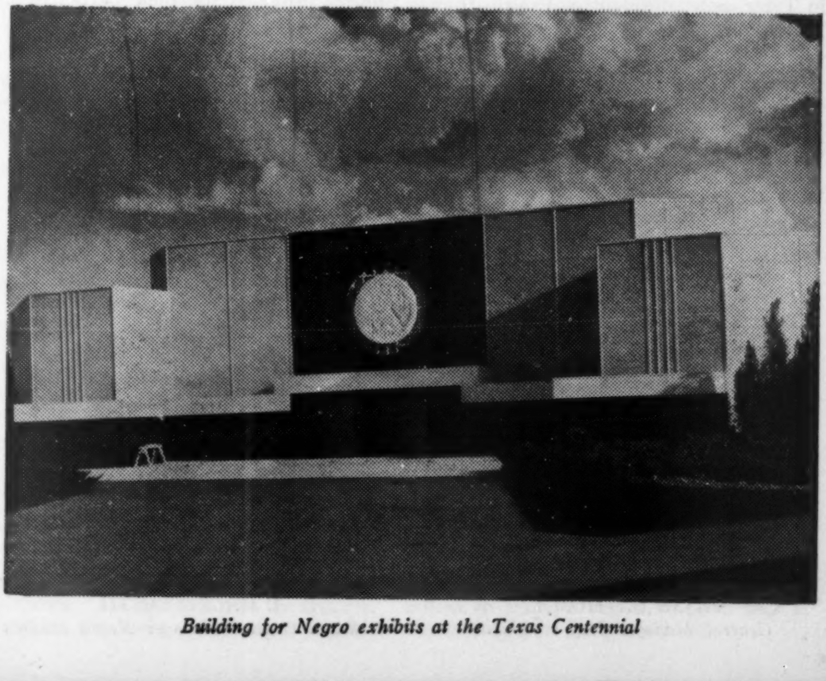
In order that the largest possible amount of the money may go toward collecting and displaying the types of exhibits to show the contribution that Negroes have made to American culture and the progress they have made in the past century, a very small administrative staff has been employed. Thus far, only four people have been on salaries. They are: Jesse O. Thomas, general manager for the Committee on Negro Exhibits; A. Maceo Smith, assistant general manager. Mr. Smith has secured a leave of absence from the board of education of Dallas from his duties at Washington high school. Two secretaries have been employed for these gentlemen. No money has been spent for office rent. The general manager's office is in the Department of Commerce building in Washington, D. C. The office of the assistant general manager has been provided by the Central Centennial Corporation in the Administration building upon the exposition grounds.

The chairman of the advisory committee is Eugene Kinckle Jones, former Adviser of the Affairs of Negroes, Department of Commerce, and executive secretary of the National Urban League. Other members of the committee are Dr. M. O. Bousfield, medical director of the Supreme Liberty Insurance Company and special representative of the Rosenwald Fund; Dr. Garnet C. Wilkinson, assistant superintendent of public instruction, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Frederick Douglass Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute; Robert L. Vann, editor of the Pittsburgh *Courier*; President W. R. Banks of Prairie View college; and Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, assistant city solicitor, Philadelphia, Pa.

Under the supervision of this committee exhibits of every character and type are being collected from all parts of the United States. Most of the painting that will be on exhibit in the Negro building will represent the collection of Negro paintings by the Harmon Foundation for the past decade. The agricultural exhibit is being assembled at Tuskegee and will demonstrate the transition through which Negro farmers have passed. Included in the agricultural exhibits will be the products of Dr. George W. Carver, noted chemist. The mechanical exhibit is being assembled at Prairie View, Texas, and will show the different inventions Negroes have contributed, and different phases of handcraft. The health exhibit is being sent from Chicago and will disclose the Negro contribution in the field of medicine. It will include the picture of Dr. Dan Williams, a Negro who performed the first successful operation upon a human heart.

It is expected that a large number of the most distinguished Negro men and women from all parts of the country will visit Dallas during the life of the Centennial. Special trains are being organized under the state designation, as Georgia Special, Mississippi Special, etc. In addition to these special trains, there will be special days in which Negro concentration will be emphasized. The following items are features of these days: June 19, Emancipation and Dedication of Building; August 19, Church and Music Day; October 19, Farm and College Day. Special attractions of a lighter vein are the appearance of Cab Calloway and his band, June 18, 19, 20 and 21, Duke Ellington and his band, October 18, 19 and 20.

The business exhibit will show through charts, graphs and maps the various types of business conducted by Negroes, the volume turnover, the number of people employed and the amount of capital invested. Special exhibits on the Negro's contribution and development in the field of social welfare activi-



Building for Negro exhibits at the Texas Centennial ties are being planned, also an exhibit on the Negro church.

More than 3,000,000 pamphlets are being published which give condensed historical and scientific information with reference to the Negro's contribution to the United States and Texas, the influence education has exerted upon his progress, and his land and property ownership as well as population distribution.

From the archives of the Negro history department of the Booker T. Washington high school in Dallas, and from information compiled by J. Leslie Patton, Jr., history teacher of the above named institution, we have gathered some information about Texas Negroes who have become national figures in the various vocations and professions. In the field of business for example, we have such men as L. H. Lightner who was born in Hearne, Texas, the Supreme Commander of the American Woodmen, Denver, Colo.; W. E. King, the founder of the Dallas *Express*, was born in the city of Dallas; the late Herman E. Perry, the founder of the Standard Life Insurance company, was born in Houston, Tex.

In the division of fine arts we find such names as that of Jules Bledsoe of Marshall, Tex.; Jessie Covington Dent, who was born in Houston, and Etta Moten who was born in San Antonio, Tex.; J. Mason Brewer, author, born in Austin, Tex.

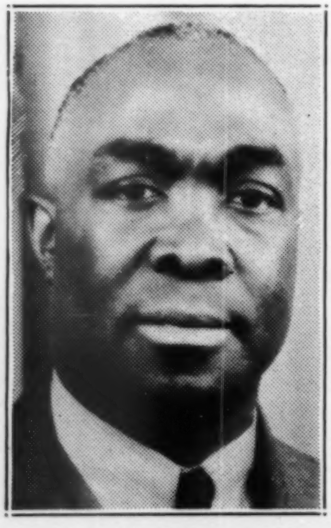
Among the educators born in Texas, are M. W. Dogan and J. J. Rhoads of Marshall, Tex.; J. D. Ryann of Houston; R. B. Atwood, born in Prairie View, who is now president of Kentucky State college; W. R. Banks, born in Tyler, now president of Prairie View State college; Willis J. King of Austin, Tex., who is president of Gammon Theological seminary of Atlanta; and Dr. Emmett J. Scott, born in Houston, now secretary of Howard university.

In the field of religion, Dr. L. K. Williams, who was born in Dallas and who is now president of the National Baptist Convention and vice-president of the World's Baptist Alliance, and pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist church in Chicago; Bishop J. B. Young of the A.M.E. church who was born in Dallas, also, lead the list. Henry Allen Boyd of the National Baptist Publishing House of Nashville, Tenn., was born in Palestine, Tex.

Perhaps the outstanding Negro in the field of politics and finance is the Honorable William McDonald, better known as "Goose Neck Bill," of Fort Worth.

The following athletes claim Texas as their place of nativity: Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion of the world, Galveston, Tex.; Eddie Tolan, the Olympic star, San Antonio; Rube Foster, baseball giant, Clavert, Tex.; Ozzie Simmons, famous half-back of the Iowa university team, Fort Worth; Ray Sheppard of Waco, Tex.

Professor Samuel W. Houston, son of the body guard of General Samuel Houston, who won Texas from Mexico in the battle of San Jacinto, has recently been appointed as the State Negro Representative by the Central Centennial officials. Prof. Houston is a graduate of Atlanta university and has served for a number of years as principal of the high school of Huntsville, Tex. His activities will be devoted toward educating and informing Negroes concerning the provisions and opportunities provided for their participation in the Texas Centennial.



JESSE O. THOMAS
General Manager Negro exhibits

A. MACEO SMITH
Assistant General Manager Negro exhibits

These and other characters who have made history in and for Texas will be invited to participate in the Texas Centennial Celebration, June 6 to November 29.

Texas Negroes have been interested in the Centennial project from its incipiency to the present time. A well selected Texas advisory committee is operating under the leadership of Principal W. R. Banks of Prairie View and is planning for many events to tell the story of the Texas Negro's progress over the period. The following are the other members of the state advisory committee: A. E. Holland, vice-chairman; A. Maceo Smith, President M. W. Dogan, Prof. S. W. Houston, Charles T. Brackins, C. H. Waller, H. P. Carter, Mrs. H. D. Winn, Wm. H. McDonald.

Negro participation in the Texas Centennial is not limited to the Negro building as exhibits are being placed in the following other buildings on the grounds: Agriculture, Poultry, Live Stock, and Hall of Religion. A cafeteria and dining room is being constructed by Negroes and will be managed for the use and enjoyment of Negro visitors.

The Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce is cooperating with all Centennial agencies to vouchsafe maximum housing comforts for visitors as well as entertainment, transportation, police protection and sight-seeing facilities.

Haitian Patriot Dies in Prison

Joseph Jolibois Fils, the foremost opponent of the United States intervention and imperialism in Haiti, died on May 13 in the jail at Port-au-Prince. Since he had not been sick previously, the news of his death has aroused suspicion. Jolibois died during the second year of his three-year sentence for lèse majesté, for the circulation of an article originally published in *Le Cri des Negres,* Paris publication, criticising President Stenio Vincent of Haiti. This article, however, the late Senator Hudicourt assured, had not been seen by anybody before it was shown at the trial as incriminating evidence. Jolibois was one of seven journalists arbitrarily arrested on the same charge. The opinion in many circles of Haitian society is that Jolibois was poisoned.

Lullaby

By MARGARET ADELAIDE SHAW

Drowsily my small brown bird
Comes at last to rest
Mother's eyes his stars shall be
Mother's arms his nest.

Here the breezes softly come
Waving their light wings.
Hush, O hush they softly hum.
Hush the Darkness sings.

My Trip South

By Benjamin Franklin Klein

LAST summer we took a canoe trip down the river, from Cincinnati to New Orleans. It took us well over a month to make the trip and we had plenty of experiences, but it's funny now when I think back over that trip only four incidents stand out vividly in my mind.

At Friar's Point, Miss.

We camped out on a sand bar near the Mississippi shore. A considerable amount of driftwood had been deposited upon the bar. A little kid came down from the levee to gather his evening pile of wood. Bright-faced, he accosted me. He wanted to paddle the canoe. I was afraid to risk it. While I doubted he climbed in and pushed off. He handled her briskly and well, first paddling up in the eddy, then cutting out into the current he put about and beached her neatly.

"Where did you learn how to paddle?" I asked him.

"Aw, that's my first time in one of those things," he replied modestly.

"I'll bet you're not scared of anything," I flattered him.

"Nuthin' in the world," he said seriously, "except snakes and niggers. They're bad—my Pop told me. . . ."

And he ran on up the levee with his bundle of wood.

Caruthersville, Mo.

It was just dark on the street. We'd pulled the boat up on the bank, and walked through the railroad yards into town. I had lost one shoe in the river and was hobbling along with one foot taped up as if injured (merely for appearance's sake). We were dirty, too kind of grizzly, I guess, is a good term. We stopped in front of a drug store to look around at the shop fronts just as the town marshal, or whoever he was, stopped too.

"Well, what ya doin' in town at night? Why ain't ya outa town yet?" he rasped loudly, and heavily and disagreeably.

I turned, startled.

He stood glowering at a colored boy, sprawled at the base of a lighted show window. Other people stopped, and crowded closer to hear. The boy crouched—darted harrassed, bewildered eyes everywhere at once—grasped the plate glass panels with his black hands—as if he were contemplating a try for freedom before the rope was brought out. . . .

"Well? Get out!" The marshal bullied.

"I'm sick," the boy mumbled sullenly. And one could see then that he was in pain. "I'm waitin' on the doctor."

"Well, don't wait too long," the Arm of the Law threatened as he strutted off slowly.

The crowd, too, the "Arm's eager assistant," dispersed. The boy had relapsed into his sprawl. His features were again impassive.

We walked on, around the town. We passed the spot several times. He was still there. A couple of hours later when we came by, though, he was gone.

New Orleans, La.

The end of a journey—fifteen hundred miles; thirty-three days on the water!

We hauled the canoe up on the bank beneath the ferry landing at Canal Street. Some kids came down and warned us to take all our belongings away and leave the boat in their hands.

"There's lotsa niggers hangin' around here, mister," they said in full explanation.

We found a customer for the boat a couple of days later and went down to the docks.

The canoe was gone.

We went into conference with several citizens lounging about. They held out no hope for its return.

"There's lotsa niggers around here. Too bad, boys, your boat's gone for sure," they said.

Then we saw the kids who advised us when we landed. They confessed pretty readily and took us down under the docks where they had hidden the canoe.

Scottsboro

I WAS five miles south of Decatur on highway "31" when my motorcycle went dead. I was just opposite a little sandwich stand, so I went in to get a chocolate bar to eat while I pushed my cycle into Decatur.

One old gent in a wornout little car stopped and offered to tow me into town. He turned his car upside down to find a tow rope. But no luck. So I thanked him anyway.

Then a man in a rattly old truck stopped and asked, "Could we hoist her on back?" We couldn't make it, tho, so he went on.

The State Trooper, on his motorcycle, patrolling the road, stopped and offered assistance. He couldn't find the trouble. "Stay on the main street when you hit town and I'll find you later. I'll be relieved in an hour, and I'll help you then." He passed me several times and waved good-naturedly.

There's a little broken-down shack about two miles from town that bears the sign "Garage," or something like that, I've forgotten now. I stopped in there, and the man was sorry I had tough luck, but he was frank. He admitted he was no expert on "motorbikes," but suggested some man in town.

I pushed her on another mile, and two fellows driving an old Model T grinned and stopped. They wanted a motorcycle. They'd trade ol' Henry off for it. But I said, not yet. This old cycle is pretty aged, but I might be able to rejuvenate her. We talked awhile about the various merits of our vehicles till it started to get dark. Then I pushed again.

I reached an oil station on the edge of town. And the attendant spent a half-hour adjusting my "points." But she still wouldn't run, so I pushed her on into town. He wouldn't take a cent.

I met the boys in the Model T again, and they offered me five dollars to boot. They were working on the TVA, they said. They could afford it. But I still demurred. We had a lot of fun, tho, talking.

And then the cop came up, and said he was going in to eat, but he'd be out pretty soon and see what was wrong. He took me over to an oil station across the street from his headquarters, and told me to wait.

The fellows around the oil station were very decent. Every few minutes someone would drive in to gas up, and we'd all go into the washroom and have a drink of bootleg stuff brought over from Tennessee. The talk always swung around to prohibition, and its chances for repeal in Alabama next election.

I thought I might casually inject another controversial subject into the conversation, so I asked them, "How about the Scottsboro Boys?"

"Oh, well, maybe the ——— aren't guilty, but they've cost this county too much money now. They ought to send them to the chair and get the damn case over with. They're only niggers, after all."

I had been wondering all the time where that jury was that convicted "The Boys." I knew then, that everybody I'd talked to since I began to push was a member of Mr. Knight's panel.

Welcome, N.A.A.C.P.

(*Continued from page* 201)

young people organized public opinion and waged a fight to secure a proportionate number of colored social workers. This effort, in conjunction with the work of the Urban League, culminated in success. It is here that young people boycotted chain stores until colored clerks were put behind the counters of these stores and given an opportunity to work where colored people were buying.

It is here that young people launched a successful crusade to register the unregistered voters in the election of 1934. It is here that young people are in the midst of a fight to break down the color barriers in the employment of police. In the youth section of the conference some of Baltimore's finest young people will be participating.

City Needs Conference

With a colored population that is slightly more than 17 per cent of the total, Baltimore—hard to sell on new ideas about anything—needs a good dose of healthy militancy that the N. A. A. C. P. conference should give.

Perhaps it is because Maryland never left the Union that Baltimoreans forget that they are below the Mason and Dixon line, separating swashbuckling Yankeedom from aristocratic eaters of good cooking. It may be, too, because the Free State, as it is called, had deep sympathies with the confederacy that the colored population is frequently left out of the progressive planning.

So bitter was the feeling in some sections of the city against the North that when the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment came through in 1861 it was attacked by a howling mob.

The Baltimore Urban League, under the leadership of Edward S. Lewis, is responsible for many of the achievements in the field of race relations. The Baltimore N. A. A. C. P. branch is also working to increase interracial understanding. Mrs. Augusta Chissell, chairman of the interracial committee, is stimulating the attendance of the many white members of the branch at the conference so that the conference will be an interracial one.

In 1776, December 20, the Colonial Congress met in Baltimore in the interests of law, order and justice. It was composed of men who believed under God, all people were entitled to liberty and the fullest opportunity to be good citizens.

In 1936, June 29, the 27th annual conference of the N. A. A. C. P., composed of men and women who believe in the same things, meets here. The destiny of the organization, the future of a race and, indeed, the fate of our nation depends to some degree on the things that we shall do here. Baltimore welcomes you!

CONFERENCE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAY, JUNE 29

Registration of youth and senior delegates; opening mass meeting 8 p. m. Speakers: Secretary Harold L. Ickes, Department of the Interior; Dr. Louis T. Wright, chairman national board of directors; Mayor Jackson, Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, president Baltimore branch. The speech of Secretary Ickes will be broadcast over an N.B.C. network.

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

Morning and afternoon discussion topics: the white primary, consumer's cooperation, lynching. Speakers: R. D. Evans, Waco, Tex.; W. H. Hannum, Salisbury, N. C.; Henry A. Hunt, Washington, D. C.; Miss Ella Baker, New York City; C. H. Hamlin, Wilson, N. C.; Dr. E. W. Taggart, Birmingham, Ala.; Mrs. Gertrude Stone, Washington, D. C.

At the night mass meeting the speakers will be John Brophy, secretary of the Committee for Industrial Organization, on the topic "Industrial Unionism and the Negro Worker"; Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, professor of sociology, Howard university, on the topic "The Negro and the Relief Program."

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Morning and afternoon discussion topics: relief and social security, legal defense, industrial, agricultural and domestic labor problems. Speakers: Alfred Edgar Smith, Washington, D. C.; Edward S. Lewis, Baltimore; Irvin C. Mollison, Chicago, Ill.; William H. Hastie, Washington, D. C.; Roscoe Dunjee, Oklahoma City; John P. Davis and Georgie Rycraw, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Grace Fenderson, Newark, N. J.; Mrs. Estelle P. Dye, Baltimore.

At the night mass meeting there will be a symposium, "Youth Hurls a Challenge." Speakers: J. Franklin Bourne, New York City; Miss Marjorie Penney, Philadelphia, Pa.; Martin L. Harvey, New York City; Miss Juanita E. Jackson, New York City.

THURSDAY, JULY 2

The discussion topics for the day: problems of education, Fascism and minority groups, and N. A. A. C. P. organization problems. Speakers: Charles H. Thompson, and Dr. Ralph Bunche, Washington, D. C.; Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Baltimore; and Roy Wilkins.

At the night mass meeting Charles H. Houston will speak on the educational campaign and Howard Kester upon the fight for the sharecroppers.

FRIDAY, JULY 3

The morning will be devoted to considering methods of fighting educational inequalities and the afternoon to legislative matters, including the adoption of the resolutions. Miss Enolia Pettigen and Thurgood Marshall of Baltimore will lead discussions.

At the night meeting the twenty-second Spingarn medal will be presented by Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard university, to Mrs. John Hope for the late Dr. John Hope.

SATURDAY, JULY 4

Delegates and visitors will be taken on a chartered steamer for a boat ride down Chesapeake bay as guests of the Baltimore branch.

SUNDAY, JULY 5

There will be a parade beginning at 1 p. m. and at the closing mass meeting at 3 p. m. Senator Robert F. Wagner, co-author of the anti-lynching bill, and Walter White will be the speakers.

All meetings will be held in the Sharp street Memorial M. E. church, Dolphin and Etting streets. The youth conference will be held in the community house of the Sharp street church next door. The young people will have separate meetings each morning, but will meet with the seniors each afternoon and evening.

Negro Artists Exhibit at Texas Centennial

The fine arts productions of thirty-eight Negroes of American descent have been sent to the Texas Centennial in Dallas where they will be placed on exhibition in the Hall of Negro Life. The opening day of the exhibition was June 19 which is Emancipation Day in Texas, and the showing will continue through November 29. Assembled and judged in New York, it contains ninety-seven pieces and includes sculptures, oils, watercolors, etchings, drawings, woodcarvings, block prints and photographs.

CORRECTION

THE CRISIS wishes to apologize to Ira DeA. Reid and to its readers for the mistake in the make-up of the June issue in which parts of Mr. Reid's article "Social Problems of Negro Business" were transposed, making the reading of the latter part of the article disjointed. The error was no fault of Mr. Reid's and THE CRISIS assumes full responsibility.

Editorials

The G. O. P. Speaks

THE Republicans, soundly trounced in 1932, met in Cleveland June 9–12 to rally the fallen for an assault upon the New Deal government of Mr. Roosevelt. Although one of their most stupid blunders, both in 1928 and 1932 was the encouragement of "lily-whitism" in the South, and the handing out of meaningless promises to the numerically small, but politically important, Negro voters in the North, the Cleveland gathering proved they had learned nothing during the lean years.

They began by seating lily-white delegations from the South, giving only Perry Howard, the elusively surviving Mississippian, any recognition. As a last minute concession South Carolina "black-and-tans" were seated. They ended by tacking onto the end of their platform these words:

> We favor equal opportunity for our colored citizens. We pledge our protection of their economic status and personal safety. We will do our best to further their employment in the gainfully occupied life of America, particularly in private industry, agriculture, emergency agencies and the civil service.
>
> We condemn the present New Deal policies which would regiment and ultimately eliminate the colored citizen from the country's productive life and make him solely a ward of the Federal Government.

There is no mention of lynching and perhaps that is just as well, since the party has done little about mobs even when it controlled Washington.

It is the pledge to protect "their economic status" which intrigues THE CRISIS. That is precisely what the Negro does not want. His present economic status is the chief cause of his discontent. If the Republicans mean they will protect him in his menial employment, in his starvation on the plantations, in his precarious position as a marginal, unskilled worker in industry, his cramped status as a professional, white-collar, technical and skilled worker everywhere, then he will hardly work himself into a lather to elect Mr. Landon and Mr. Knox and a Republican congress.

The promise "to do their best" to see that the Negro is gainfully employed in several fields of endeavor is a step forward so far as G.O.P. planks are concerned, but if they mean that, why the sentence about economic status?

There has been too much of the maintenance of this economic status to suit the Negro. He wants more, much more. The Republicans listen to a lot of people on this Negro problem, but THE CRISIS suspects they still pay most attention to the old-line southern Negro Republicans. These Dixie delegates cannot speak for the three million Negroes in the North who have the vote.

Anyone ought to know by now that unless a Roman Catholic, a Jew or a Negro is nominated for President, the South is going to stay Democratic. Therefore the Negroes who are going to do the Republican party any good are the Negroes in the North. On two occasions these voters have shown the Republican party they mean business. They prevented the confirmation of Judge John J. Parker to the United States supreme court in 1930 and then turned about and helped defeat eleven senators who voted for Parker's confirmation. In the Republican presidential primaries of 1936 they blasted whatever hopes Senator William E. Borah might have had by decisively defeating his delegates in the important states of Illinois and Ohio.

These two events mean the Negro voter in the North is definitely through with words and promises. For the Negro, the Republicans (or any other political party) need carry out, really, only two pledges: (1) equal opportunity to secure all types of employment at equal wages; and (2) no restriction upon the exercise of the ballot by any citizen on account of race, color or creed and that in the event of such restriction the representation in the Congress of all states practising such restriction will be reduced.

With these two pledges carried out the Negro himself will take care of such matters as education, lynching, segregation and discrimination.

Good Old U. S. Sportsmanship

HITLER, Goebbels, Goering and company must be getting quite a laugh out of the antics of the dear old U. S. A. in selecting an American team to compete in the Olympic games. Last year, it will be recalled, there was a furore of high idealism, a flood of condemnation of the Nazi prostitution of sport to politics, and of racial discrimination in the glorious field of athletic competition.

The other day the District of Columbia was to have a regional track meet to pick the athletes who will compete in the finals in New York July 11–12. Some lads from Howard university innocently applied for blanks and were told firmly that they could not enter "because there were no events for Negroes." To save face in such cases the national directors are permitting Negro athletes to enter directly from their regions without being certified by their district directors.

THE CRISIS has urged that no team be sent to Berlin, but on second thought, perhaps we were too hasty. In principle, Herr Hitler and certain athletic officials in this country have much in common. The Olympic games will bring together kindred spirits from Washington, D. C., Atlanta, Ga., New Orleans, La. and Munich. Sending a team, also, will not violate the grand American trait of hypocrisy. It will be on a par with condemning Storm Troopers while encouraging mobs; it will square with sending missionaries to convert cannibals while the home folks roast men alive and slice off a chunk of hot flesh for a souvenir; it fits in exactly with demanding an open door for Jewish athletes in Berlin while keeping the door tightly closed to Negro athletes in Birmingham.

Let's not sully our U. S. sportsmanship! Let's send a team to Berlin!

The Black Legion And Lynching

THE public is professing great amazement and indignation over the revelations of the murderous activities of the Black Legion, which was uncovered in Michigan following the cold-blooded killing of a man by the Legion's "trigger men."

A loud hue and cry has gone up for a Congressional investigation. An appropriation of $7,500 for a lynching investigation has not been approved, but now a fund of $100,000 is demanded for the Legion probe. The Honorable Homer S. Cummings, U. S. attorney general (who isn't interested in lynching) has been petitioned frantically to send the famed G-Men to Michigan. Mr. Cummings, with his usual New England Yankee caution, has shied away from Michigan's Lynching Legion on the ground that no known federal law has been violated.

So Michigan and surrounding states are fumbling, with the usual ineptitude and ineffectiveness of the states, against organized lynching. No federal anti-lynching law, or anything resembling such a law has been able to get serious attention in Congress. Senators Smith of South Carolina, George of Georgia, Bailey of North Carolina, Connally of Texas and others wish to preserve to their states the right to lynch without federal interference, so citizens of Michigan and nearby states must do the best they can with the Black Legion. It is too bad, of course, but the South must be humored and allowed to "pleasure itself" with rope and faggot fiestas.

Picnic

(*Continued from page* 199)

moment. Falling on his knees in the thick oozing mud, in the steady drizzling rain, he clasped the priest's hands and kissed them. Raising himself from the ground slowly, he picked up the pirogue and started down the embankment toward the edge of the water. He was half way down . . .

"Here, take my coat and hat," called Pére Reno. "It will avoid suspicion in your travel."

Francois came back. They hastily exchanged garments, and Pére Reno watched Francois from the top of the levee until he was far out on the river. Turning, he began to retrace his steps homeward. His hands buried in the coat pocket of Francois's hunting jacket, the cap partly shading his face from the rain, he walked steadily. And as he walked, he prayed.

A HALF hour passed. The sound of the slush beneath his feet in the muddy road was audible in the black silence. Huge trees, like ghosts in the night, ranged themselves in dim shadowy outlines; at intervals, the barking of hounds in the distance sounded a warning that seemed unearthly. Suddenly, from afar, the hum of motor cars could be heard. Headlights shot around the bend in the road.

Father Renauld walked forward steadily, unflinchingly. The cars stopped. The barking of the hounds grew louder. Now Father Renauld saw them. They were straining at a leash almost dragging along the two men who tried to hold them in check. The priest realized he had been seen. It would be easy to explain, he thought, as he increased his pace toward the on-coming men. However, a hideous yell went up from the mob. The men came forward on the run. Sticks, shot guns, even pitchforks, were brandished by some. A pocket flashlight pierced the eerie blackness, its beam falling in full view on the priest's upturned coat collar.

"There he is, the d - - n nigger! Get him." The priest heard other voices, loud, menacing savage voices.

"Let me at him . . ."

"Don't run, nigger, or I'll shoot you dead."

"That's him—I know him by that coat and cap," came a voice above the stampede of men running toward him. The priest had stopped. At first, perplexed, he merely stood his ground and waited. The dogs, still dragging their leaders behind them, pounced upon him. The first man to reach the priest grabbed him at the collar, and with one movement felled him with a blow on the side of the head. As he sank, something was torn from his person. It was his Roman collar and black rabbais. His assailant hastily cast the objects in the ditch and attacked his victim anew, savagely striking, almost blindly, even injuring his fellow mobsters in his anxiety to express his hatred.

The rain of blows rendered the priest insensible, but only momentarily. Dimly through his consciousness he heard voices, maddened animal-like voices. Stabs of pain rendered him faint . . . then there was total darkness. In another flash of sensibility his pains were so intense as to be unbearable. His face was cut, his lips swollen, his eyes partly closed, his whole head and features one bloody, pulpy mass of distorted human flesh. His clothes were gone except for his trousers. His bare chest was cut and bleeding profusely; his back raw. A heavy object encircled his neck. It made him twitch and writhe. He touched it with quivering fingers. A rope! He tried to piece things together. Reluctantly his faculties, numbed by the outrage, began to respond. He realized his position. He was seated on top of a truck. In the baleful flicker of torches, held high by many men, his swollen eyes perceived a milling crowd. There were men, women, boys, even a little girl, wild-eyed, frightened, held up by her mother . . . all white people. All were yelling, jeering frantically, gesticulating, all except the little girl, who, thoughtfully holding her forefinger between her teeth, gazed on in puzzlement of innocence.

"Tie his hands above his head!" someone shouted.

"Tie his feet! . . . burn him!" came another cry.

A stone, thrown by someone in the mob, struck the priest full in the face. His head drooped to one side. He was too weak even to dodge or move. There was a moment of silence. "Look at him!" the leader of the mob bade in a voice that came from the depths of hell. "Is he the nigger that killed yo' gal Sissey?"

A vibrant, "Yes!" came like an arrow.

A terrible cry rumbled above the chaos of voices: "Tie his hands above his head and pull that truck out from under him, or I'll kill the nigger myself!"

The victim, now clothed in his blood, closed his eyes. His swollen lips moved. A few men clambered to him. Roughly and in some ingenious fashion they bound his hands loosely so that both were clasped at the wrist and held above his head. One man gave him a parting kick as he jumped down, yelling out: "Haul away."

Pére Reno knew his hour was at hand and prayed with his heart rather than his lips, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

The crowd watched the truck intensely. A moment's silence, a jerk, a forward movement, a sickening thud, and the Negro priest's body was dangling in space . . . A gurgling groan from the innocent victim—a blood curdling yell from the guilty. The rain began to fall in torrents, Lightning rent the night into inferno shreds. Thunder rolled and reverberated through the woods. It was exactly midnight. The mob dispersed slowly. First one by one, then in groups. The body of the priest swung slowly, rhythmically, in the wind and the rain, like a banner unfurled.

The first rays of dawn broke scarlet. Old Madame Rey rushed over to the church. There in the half light of the nave, she saw two women kneeling in prayer, Madame Dupré and her daughter-in-law-to-be, Marie. The old housekeeper stood in the doorway of the church, silently gazing, searching in vain for Pére Reno.

On a dismal road, a few miles off the main highway, a curious few still watched the body of a Negro, pathetic, even in death, swaying slightly, hung by the neck. Tacked on his trouser leg was a roughly printed sign which read . . . .

"NIGGERS BEWARE"

Spingarn Medal

(*Continued from page* 202)

South Africa, "a missionary of intelligence, tact and self-sacrifice, representing the gift of cooperation and culture which American Negroes may send back to their Motherland; and he inaugurated last year an unusual local movement for interracial understanding among black and white students." Presented July 1, 1933, at Chicago, Ill., by Edwin R. Embree, President of the Julius Rosenwald Fund.

20. **Dean William Taylor Burwell Williams** of Tuskegee Institute "for his long service as field agent of the Slater and Jeanes fund and the General Education Board, his comprehensive knowledge of the field of Negro education and educational equipment and his sincere efforts for their betterment." Presented June 29, 1934, at Oklahoma City, Okla., by the Reverend J. Raymond Henderson, pastor of Wheat Street Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.

21. **Mary McLeod Bethune,** founder and president of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Fla. "In the face of almost insuperable difficulties she has, almost single-handedly, established and built up Bethune-Cookman College, which is recognized by the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States as a standard junior college. In doing this she has not simply created another educational institution. Both the institution's and Mrs. Bethune's influence have been nationwide. That influence has always been on a high plane, directed by a superb courage. Mrs. Bethune has always spoken out against injustice, in the South as well as in the North, without compromise or fear."

Harlem W.P.A. Festival

A spring festival from June 8-13 was held in Dorrence Brooks Square in Harlem by the W.P.A. of the City of New York. The festival included music, outdoor and indoor exhibits, art, games and folk dances. Mrs. Inez Richardson Wilson of the W.P.A. staff was in charge.

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Premature

Greensboro, N. C., *Daily News*

RECENT congratulations showered upon the state of Georgia for prevention of a lynching were, it now develops, quite premature. Commendation is unaltered for Judge Berry T. Moseley, whose courageous stand thwarted violence in one instance; but indictment of Georgia officialdom in general is more severe, in view of the revealed denouement, than it would have been had Lint Shaw, the hapless black victim, been lynched at the outset.

There is absolutely no excuse for the fate which he suffered early Tuesday at the hands of a mob which owes its ultimate success to short-sightedness or indifference of authorities which is so patent and inexcusable that it amounts almost to connivance. In that respect, however, it but follows the pattern and technique of lynchings generally.

Three attempts were made to secure the Negro before he was finally taken. In the first instance, Judge Moseley left his sick bed to address the mob. Telling its members that he recognized practically all of them and then deputizing many members of the crowd to serve as deputies in upholding rather than trampling the law, the jurist succeeded in halting the mobbery. Then troops arrived and took Shaw, wounded in a fight with officers, to Athens. Brought back to Danielsville, scene of his alleged crime, for trial, the Negro faced another angry assembly, and officers lost no time in removing him to nearby Royston.

With these previous demonstrations before them, the temper and determination of the mob known, they left their prisoner in a small-town, unfortified jail with a sole night policeman as his and the law's protecting guardian. Who could have expected anything but the barbarism which occurred? The angry mob followed and had no difficulty whatever in getting its man. The usual technique prevailed to the end; the officer on duty did not recognize a single mobster, in sharp contrast to Judge Moseley's declaration of identity, and the sheriff, hastily summoned to the scene after it was all over but cutting down the Negro's battered body, is without a clue upon which to work.

Now, let's see; what was it our statesmen were saying about sovereign rights and the absolute needlessness of federal anti-lynching measures in their respective bailiwicks?

The great quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held at Columbus, Ohio, agreed upon an "ideal" plan for Unification for its three estranged branches, facetiously handed its Negro constituents a salve in form of a segregated Negro jurisdiction, and asked God's benediction upon the proceedings.

God was at Columbus long before the white Christians from "Dixie" and the North arrived. He tried to be friendly and of service, but He was not recognized.

God watched and followed the proceedings with keen interest; when the conference insulted His Intelligence by approving segregation of Negro Christians in His name, He took a walk. . . .—Philadelphia *Tribune*.

While we are willing to give some credit to Bill Bingham (Chairman of the Olympic Committee), for his decision to allow Negro athletes, jim-crowed in their own sections, to compete in the Eastern Trials at the Harvard Stadium, we must say that he and his colleagues have taken the easy way out.

The Olympic Committee presumably have the power to demand that prejudiced Athletic Unions should permit qualified Negro athletes to compete in their trials or else disqualify the trials altogether. Then they could lay squarely on the shoulders of these southerners the onus of weakening America's chances in the Olympics. As it stands the Committee dodges the issue and the fair name of Olympus is violated by these southern "sportsmen" who are not fit to be in the same stadium with their colored contemporaries. The farce of it is that southern athletes who qualify for the final trials in New York must meet Negro finalists—then what? Like the cowards they are, they will curl their ears and accept the situation and the team will go to Germany. Won't Hitler laugh after all the talk about Jews? . . .—Boston *Chronicle*.

Labeling the Costigan-Wagner anti-lynching bill "a bad bill," The Savannah *Evening Press* contends that President Roosevelt should avowedly oppose it.

Why should the President or any other lover of law observance object to a measure that would be the means of blotting out one of the greatest menaces of American life? Knowing the editor of *The Press* as well as we do, he too can be included in the number favoring the discontinuance of lynching and every other form of lawlessness, but he is afraid of the State's Rights bogey. Southern senators have been able to prevent due consideration of this bill, basing their attitude on the rights of states. They do not consider State's Rights while the federal government invades their borders by spending thousands of dollars. They do not consider these rights while the government is hounding and capturing kidnappers and other criminals, but their inconsistency is shown just as soon as the question of law enactment against lynching arises. In the meantime the lynching mania continues, seemingly approved by the officials of the states affected. . . .—Savannah *Tribune*.

The members of the Black Klan in Michigan accused of murders, poisonings and floggings are white southerners who have migrated North to take jobs in auto factories, says a news item.

And they certainly must be jolted to discover Michigan's warm reception and quick attempt to give them their deserts.

Michigan's Congressmen are introducing a bill to enable Federal G-men to handle the Black Klan.

If we will all be patient, there will soon be national sentiment enough to let the G-men handle all crimes which communities are too weak or too backward to control. The G-men will yet be put on the trail of lynchers. . . .—*Afro-American*.

Senator Edward P. Costigan, joint author with Senator Wagner of a Federal Anti-Lynching Bill is fundamentally and constitutionally the friend and defender of the underprivileged. He cannot help it; he is built that way. Wherever there is a cry of anguish, he is quick to hear; wherever there are signs of injustice and oppression, he is alert and quick to perceive. . . .—*Star of Zion*.

New Life for Texas Farmers

THE Resettlement Administration has announced its first Negro project west of the Mississippi river. It will provide farms for 120 landless farmers in Harrison county, East Texas. This county is 61 per cent Negro in population, freed slaves having flocked there immediately after the Civil War upon the rumor that the entire county would be given over to them.

Several thousand Negro farm families living within a radius of 25 miles of this project are expected to follow the leadership of the Resettlement group in cooperative production and marketing, and also in community, social and recreational activities. Dr. M. W. Dogan, president of Wiley college, with an enrollment of 600 students, endowed by the Methodist church, has been one of the leading men in promoting the project.

Land on which these families will be located is in the sandy-timber area. It is being acquired at a maximum price of $15 an acre, whereas black land farms in other sections of Texas sell for $75 to $100 an acre. Nevertheless, this sandy land when properly cultivated has won the lion's share of agricultural honors. A contest staged by the local Chamber of Commerce in Harrison county a few years ago showed that the land could be built up within four years from a production of one-fifth of a bale of cotton to practically a full bale per acre. This was the average record of improvement made by 35 Negro farmers and 50 white farmers who took part in the contest. Similar improvement was made with corn, the first year showing 17 bushels per acre and the fourth year showing more than 40 bushels per acre.

There are 5,000 Negro farmers in Harrison county today, of whom less than one-third own their land. In all of Texas, there are 72,000 Negro farmers of whom 51,000 are tenants. One-half of the tenants are "croppers" who depend upon their landlord for tools, teams, and supplies.

Farms in the Harrison county project will be considerably higher in value per acre than the average in that county or in the state as a whole.

D. P. Trent, director of the Resettlement Administration in Texas and Oklahoma, says: "Experience of many years has taught mortgage companies that good land is paid for more easily than poor land, even though the poor land is bought at a much lower price. In this project, as in all our resettlement projects, we are putting our clients on nothing but good lands." Size of the project farms is almost twice the size of the average owner-operated farm in Harrison county, and three times the size of the tenant-operated farm.

In Harrison county, the Resettlement Administration is building a community for 120 landless Negro farmers. This experiment and others like it ought to be watched with interest by all colored people since two-thirds of the race still lives in rural areas

This project is located near the junction of the Harrison-Panola County line and the Sabine river. About 20 per cent of the purchased area is too rough or too wet to permit tillage, but can be utilized for timber or pasture. Average rainfall is about 45 inches, and the average growing season is 240 days.

It is estimated that cash income from each farm will total $880, of which $690 will be from crops and $180 from livestock. This is in addition to $380 worth of crops to be consumed on the farm, and $118 worth of livestock products consumed there.

The estimate of production is as follows: cotton, 15 acres, 2,475 pounds of lint; corn and peas, 17 acres, 340 bushels; grain sorghum, 5 acres, 20 tons; soy beans, 5 acres, 10 tons; sweet potatoes, 2 acres, 200 bushels; sugar cane, 1 acre, 150 gallons; garden and orchard (home-use); pasture, 17 acres, grazing 10 to 12 animals; timber, 15 acres, 15,000 feet.

Three cows on each farm are estimated to yield an income of $150 a year, of which $35 will be used at home. One hog is expected to produce $100 worth of pork, of which $40 worth will be used at home. The 25 chickens are expected to produce 100 fryers and 225 dozen eggs of which $45 worth will be used at home.

Each of the 120 farms will have a barn, a poultry house, a hoghouse, a pumphouse, and a pit toilet. Houses will be of wood, on concrete pier foundations. They will contain a combination kitchen and dining room, bathroom, bedrooms, porch and work porch, closet and storage space. Water will be supplied to kitchen and bathroom from a dug well by means of a hand pump and pressure tank. Plumbing fixtures will consist of kitchen sink and a five-foot bathtub.

Location and arrangement of houses and outbuildings will be governed by sun exposure, prevailing winds, road location and dust line. Native trees and shrubs will be planted to present a pleasing appearance and to provide beauty and comfort.

Fifty-five of the houses will have three rooms, forty-seven will have four rooms, and eighteen will have five rooms. This distribution is in line with the pro-

(*Continued on page* 218)

Some of the farmers who hope to secure land in the Harrison County, Texas, project

A Greater N. A. A. C. P.

By Leon P. Miller

IN his challenging booklet BLACK AMERICANS WHAT NOW? James Weldon Johnson makes the suggestion that the organized power of the Negro might well be centralized and concentrated in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. That there is need for centralization and coordination of effort none will deny. And it is none the less evident that of the many existing organizations, the N.A.A.C.P. is potentially the most capable of serving this purpose. Within the limitations of Mr. Johnson's monograph it was impractical, perhaps, to enlarge upon his suggestion to the extent of formulating means by which this desired centralization of effort might be accomplished. What is said here is an effort to follow his suggestion through.

The N.A.A.C.P. has done a splendid job. With this statement few, if any, will disagree. It has deliberately, and properly so, operated within a limited field and its framework has been adapted to cope with its definite task. It has been consecrated to the protection of Negroes' rights under the law. Occasionally it has extended its field of operation, but essentially it has been, and is, a protective organization. An organization whose field of operation is so limited cannot answer the larger purpose suggested. At the outset, if it is to accommodate itself to the desired objective, its field of operation must be greatly broadened; its scope must become more comprehensive and elastic. In short it must become in reality an association for the "advancement" of colored people. Its activities must be enlarged to meet and serve the varied civic and economic needs of the race.

Whatever may be decided upon as proper objectives of the Greater Association, their ultimate realization will depend not so much upon the organization's activity as upon the organization's strength. In fact, if the organization is sufficiently strong numerically and cohesively and its potential strength is properly directed and exploited, the necessity for organization activity will be considerably lessened. The organization itself is the important thing. The recent and current examples of Huey Long, Father Coughlin and Dr. Townsend impressively demonstrate this fact.

The N.A.A.C.P. should have an authentic membership of two million persons. At first blush this might seem an impossible objective. In the light of the organization's past experiences it is a difficult task. However, the organization's meager success along this line might be attributable to its ineptitude. It is no reflection upon the ability of the officers, past and present, of the N.A.A.C.P. to say that they have displayed but little aptitude or genius for organization. Their talents have run along other lines.

Officers of the Greater Association who will be charged with accomplishing the organization's ultimate aims should not be burdened with the distracting tasks of organization and finance. This phase of the work can with better effect be placed under the separate direction and supervision of a dynamic business man whose talents run in that direction.

Colored people will never organize themselves into an effective N.A.A.C.P. They can and must be organized. This is not a peculiar racial characteristic; it is a failing common to all groups. There must be a moving spirit. No worthwhile organization just happens to exist. Some one or more persons have conceived an idea, dressed it up and sold it. The N.A.A.C.P. has a splendid product but heretofore its salesmanship has been extremely poor.

The Greater Association will adhere to the conception that the organization is the thing. Financial considerations, even, must be subordinated to this concept. No person can be permitted for financial reasons to escape the duty of becoming a member. Some type of affiliation can be placed in the reach of persons who are unable, or unwilling to pay the present one dollar membership fee. As between one hundred members at 25 cents each and twenty-five members at $1.00, each the former is to be desired although the financial returns are the same. The importance of adequate financial support is not be minimized, but the prestige of numbers must have first consideration. Money speaks with a loud voice in America, but in a group movement such as we contemplate, a numerically strong organization, responsive to virile leadership, is more important. This is, indeed, fortunate for a group such as ours which has so little money.

Many of my readers will doubt the possibility of organizing two million Negroes. Particularly will they disparage the thought of getting that many Negroes to cooperate or respond to leadership. It might be observed, parenthetically, that we, as a group, are never held in so low estate as when we discuss and appraise ourselves privately. In a condescending and somewhat humorous manner we are wont to attribute to ourselves many undesirable traits that are not by any means peculiar to us. In fairness to the rank and file of Negroes, at whom criticism is usually directed, it should be remembered that no worthwhile effort has ever been made to organize the Negro in a program which had for its purpose and end the welfare of the group. The N.A.A.C.P. is to be excepted in so far as its purpose is concerned, but the futility of its appeal is attributable in no small degree to the fact that it has lacked leadership with imagination and full comprehension of its vast possibilities. Without desiring to attribute to the Negro capabilities that he does not possess, it is only fair to suggest that judgment be withheld until, in a fair test, the contrary is demonstrated.

The cohesiveness of pressure groups is seldom definitely proved. Under prudent leadership such a group does not seek an actual test of its strength. Its success lies in its unknown possibilities. Under the dexterous exploitation of capable leadership potential strength, for pressure purposes, becomes equivalent to actual strength without the uncertain necessity of demonstration. Much can be said, of course, why pressure groups should not exist in this country. It may be that as we approach utopia they will disappear; but for the present, at least, minorities must organize for self-protection.

Without minimizing in the least the effective work that the N.A.A.C.P. has done, and is doing, it is possible that it can be of more practical benefit and certainly exert a greater appeal if its program is made more tangible and is brought nearer its membership. The organization is best known for its activity in behalf of some helpless Negro who has unfortunately become entangled in the meshes of the law. Few persons believe that they themselves will ever need the organization's services. Only the more thoughtful of the group are able to appraise the indirect benefits they receive, and fewer still are willing to pay for these benefits in membership fees. Those who contribute do so more in a spirit of idealism than with any expectation of practical benefits. There is much to be said for making the objectives and benefits more tangible. This can be done by broadening the activities of the branches.

The local organizations should be all-embracing in their community objectives and supreme within their spheres to accomplish the objectives. They could combine in a general way the objectives and functions of a Rotary club, a chamber of commerce, and in a broad and non-partisan sense a politico-civic organization. Its opportunities for service are coextensive with the vast and varied needs of the group for organized effort. Local support will increase as the organization demonstrates its ability and willingness to meet these local needs. The national organization should content itself with general supervision of local branches to the end only that the parent organization is not improperly involved in local matters. With this limitation the branches should have complete freedom of action. The national organization's concern should be directed, in the main, to those larger problems which confront the race as a whole.

As the Greater Association grows in strength it must expect a closer scrutiny of its methods, and a demand for a more democratic method in determining upon its policies. Its longtime program must, in a large measure, represent the crytallized sentiment of the group. Its policies must be formulated by consecrated men and women, selected for their wisdom, judgment, experience and integrity, and in whom the masses have confidence. All of us are not capable of developing a sane program of racial advancement. We cannot, of course, stagnate with those who are content with present conditions, but it would be equally unwise to accept the leadership of the overzealous who desire and expect to overcome racial inequalities over night. The Greek-letter fraternities, lodges, churches and schools whose constructive efforts are to be integrated in this central organization should furnish thinkers who are equal to this task.

The N.A.A.C.P. cannot of course lend itself to cheap organization methods. Its purposes and activities do not tend to the spectacular. Its successes are seldom dramatic. This does not mean, however, that it cannot popularize itself. An N.A.A.C.P. playground in every community, for example, is a program with vast possibilities. It will unquestionably meet an urgent need, but its inestimable benefits to under-privileged children will hardly exceed the benefits inuring to the sponsoring organization in publicity and good will. Funds for the projects can be raised locally. This might be done in part by an annual N.A.A.C.P. Ball (similar to the President's Ball) held simultaneously in communities throughout the country. Such tangible and enduring evidence of the organization's existence will attract many who have not before seen fit to contribute to its support. Many similar projects are equally necessary and can be accomplished by the local branches in collaboration with the central organization. Many Negro communities have no library facilities simply because they have never sought them. The National Association could study this problem and determine the best method of approach. The branches could be given the benefit of these studies and then encouraged and assisted in securing this vital community asset from civic authorities. In southern states maintaining separate school systems, and not providing higher education for Negroes, the branches of such states acting together under capable direction might appeal for state aid to colored youths who desire to secure professional training in other states. Such financial assistance is now provided by law in West Virginia and several other states. Branches in some states may prefer this plan at present to the more direct and summary methods elsewhere employed.

One might go on interminably building a Greater Association on paper. It is infinitely less difficult to dream than it is to bring about their practical realization. We must, however, agree with James Weldon Johnson that there should be a greater N.A.A.C.P. The different methods by which we individually would reach this goal are relatively unimportant. After all, those who have been engaged in this work are no doubt best qualified to formulate a program for enlargement. To them Mr. Johnson's suggestion should be a challenge.

WPA Opera

(*Continued from page 203*)

and for the rest of the week, the attendance was sparse, but Saturday night, the night of Il Trovatore, the Manhattan theatre was crowded, every seat occupied and standees in the rear of the house.

Many came in disbelief, others came expecting a Harlem adaptation of Verdi's opera, and, only a few, who had seen the rehearsals, knew that each one of the amateur cast of 55, by day houseworkers, porters, seamstresses and laborers, was determined to justify the hopes and heartbreaking effort of months by presenting such a sincere and sympathetic interpretation of the opera as to leave no doubt in the minds of the audience of the artistry of the performers.

Accompanied by a 36-piece WPA symphony orchestra under the direction of Luigi Lovreglio, dressed in the colorful costumes of North Italy, with splendid backdrops and staging, these amateurs made history by singing Il Trovatore in a manner which was compared favorably with renditions by professionals.

When the curtain was raised, disclosing Harrell Robinson as Ferrando, an expectant silence greeted him. This silence persisted through the entire first act, while skepticism was being replaced by a feeling of genuine delight, and when Cato as Azucena sang her first big aria in the gypsy scene her richly vibrant mezzo soprano voice completely won the audience and wild applause stopped the show for several minutes.

Bob Roberts, as the love-smitten Count di Luna, with his baritone aria, "The passion which inspires me," also won applause. Parker Williams, a lyric tenor, in the role of Manrico gave splendid support to Miss Cato and to Mattie Washington who portrayed the lovely Leonora.

The critic of the *New Yorker* declared: "Customers who went to the Manhattan theatre on Saturday night expecting to find the Harlem amateurs' WPA 'Il Trovatore' to be a counterpart of the Harlem WPA 'Macbeth' found a production that was more surprising than a jazzed 'Trovatore' would have been. This performance turned out to be one of the most strictly traditional stagings of Il Trovatore that have been seen around town.

"The cast, with one exception, consisted of youthful vocalists who had a minimum of experience with operatic music, and it will be sufficient to say that they worked diligently and that the audience gave some of the year's most enthusiastic applause. The exception was Miss Cato, who assembled the performance and sang Azucena.

"Miss Cato's singing was uneven, but some of her tones were opulent, and she obviously knew every trick that an Azucena should have.

"The show as a whole, was an entertaining and interesting event, although it shouldn't be analyzed as a professional operatic enterprise. Possibly the same observation may be applied to a good many other Il Trovatores that have been on view hereabouts."

H. Lawrence Freeman, writing in the *Afro-American*, says "the practical and valuable experience of the Minto Cato Choralites was the basis upon which Miss Cato built and elaborated for the grand opera presentation."

Dr. Nikolai Sokoloff, national director of the WPA Federal Music Project, considers this presentation of grand opera by an amateur group the finest thing to come out of the Works Progress Administration's music program for New York.

It is the hope of Minto Cato to produce Aida, Carmen and L'Africane, as these operas, with their colorful costuming, full choral opportunities, and locale, lend themselves readily to presentation by her group of amateurs.

What of the Negro Bourgeoisie?

By Bettie E. Parham

The Negro middle class must choose between the capitalists and the workers—and must choose the workers, says this writer

NEEDLESS to repeat, the great economic and social havoc of America has as its basic groundwork, the two big factors—capital and labor. The two classes, capitalists and the proletariat have in actuality borne the brunt of the nation's unrest and instability, while the middle class, the *bourgeoisie,* has drifted in a sea of uncertainty, first toward one group, then the other.

The Negro *bourgeoisie* is represented by that small group of professional and business folk including lawyers, physicians, dentists, educators, government workers, and other white collared occupations. This group, like the others, has suffered by the depression and recognizes with the rest of the world the necessity for organized action. They are for the most part identified with the Democratic and Republican parties, but are laboring at the present time under the severest of political conflicts. The great quandary is whether to ally themselves with the worker, the capitalist or remain in their neutral status.

The life blood of the Negro *bourgeoisie* is dependent upon the proletariat on the one hand, while they are tied hand and foot to the capitalist on the other. They represent the most helpless, and dependent of the social and economic groups. Extreme loyalty to either side means death to him.

Salaried Negro educators whose rank, position, and perhaps educational attainments have been acquired through capitalistic, philanthropic agencies, ambitious lawyers whose successes depend on political party affiliations controlled by capitalists, government workers, and others of a similar status are faced with the problem of finding their places in the great battle. The all-powerful self-preservative influence within them forever looms up. The middle class man realizes that he is the loser in both cases, certainly for the present. In one instance it is the loss of capitalistic support and the other a sacrifice of racial integrity and loyalty to the masses.

The capitalist has a definite fight to make—that of maintaining the power that he has already attained; the worker fights solely for one goal, a living wage accompanied by the simple rights of a normal citizen. The middle class struggles between the two trying to decide which affiliation will be to its material advantage or which will be least damaging to its well-being

The *bourgeoisie* among the Negro people of America is just beginning to recognize the necessity for changing its traditional party affiliations. The Negro of this group further realizes that his chances for higher economic and political advancement are negligible under the present political set-up. He will forever be in the middle class and forever swim in mediocrity. He is to be compared to the powerless puppet controlled by the strings of capitalistic influences.

The Communists have made their bid for him, but having nothing to offer; their policies and principles if brought to fruition will doubtless tear down the hopes and accomplishments of many years' struggle. The program of the Socialists more nearly meets his needs.

The *laissez faire* attitude of the educated Negro toward the laborer can do no other than lead to racial deterioration. It is he who must teach the workers the best methods of handling their grievances and of organizing their unions.

During the summer of 1935 there was conducted in the school of commerce at New York University, a federal teacher training labor school. This project was under the directorship of Hilda Smith, formerly of Byrn Mawr college, but who is now employed at Washington in adult education work.

The number attending this school was limited to forty, two being Negroes. It was a heterogeneous group of Democrats, Republicans, Socialists, Communists, Lovestonites and Trotskyites, most of whom held graduate degrees in economics. While there were divergencies in opinions—and in many instances warlike verbal combats—their ultimate goal was to acquire professional methods for conducting workers' classes. They were taught methods of organizing unions, to properly conduct strikes, how to handle scabs, when and how to conduct a picket line. They were further taught labor drama, labor art, and songs, in addition to every-day practical problems of labor and economics.

These teachers having acquired this information went into their various localities throughout New York and New Jersey to organize part-time and evening workers' classes.

Suffice it to say that the white collared Negro must look beyond his immediate circumstance into the future. He must offer himself to be hanged upon the cross of personal sacrifice to save the suffering masses. A definite stand must be taken with the workers. He has the brain while they have the brawn and numbers. In spirit he must come down from his professional chair to lead this proletariat as Moses led the Israelites out of despair. Side by side they must stand in the picket line and in other organized labor efforts until the fight is won.

Annual Education Number

The August CRISIS will be the annual education number, containing news and pictures of college graduates. The Crisis regrets that space will not permit the inclusion of pictures and information of high school graduates. All material for the education number must be in THE CRISIS office not later than July 3. We do not guarantee to return pictures unless they are accompanied by stamps.

America

By VIOLET G. HAYWOOD

America, it is of thee,
Thou called by men in song the free,
Thou land of sweetest liberty!
That I would sing.

Land where my dusky fathers died
Land where the hearts of black men cried
Where black men's tears at last were dried
By harsh despair.

If freedom from your mountains ring,
The echo coming back will bring
A ghastly note of men who sing
Of bondage pain.

Oh! cruel, lying, heart of you
Beware unless some day you rue
This poison that in hate you brew
'Gainst black men's souls!

O.K. on Anti-lynching Bill

The quadrennial general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in session in Columbus, O., during May unanimously endorsed the Costigan-Wagner anti-lynching bill.

The quadrennial general conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church meeting in New York during May also endorsed the Costigan-Wagner bill.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Anti-lynching Bill Forced Out of House Committee

On June 15 the required number of 218 signatures was secured from congress and the House Judiciary committee was thus discharged from consideration of the anti-lynching bill introduced by Congressman Joseph A. Gavagan of New York.

The effort to have a Democratic caucus in the House consider anti-lynching legislation and declare the party policy on it failed on May 22 when a quorum did not appear at the caucus. Immediately a petition was placed on the speaker's desk by Congressman Gavagan who discharged the committee on the Judiciary from consideration of his anti-lynching bill, thus permitting it to be brought to the floor. According to the rules of the House the first date upon which the bill may be considered is July 13 and it does not appear at this writing that Congress will be in session on that date. If Congress does not finish its business in time to adjourn before the Democratic national convention June 23 it will recess for the convention and probably will run into July.

North Carolina Election Official Fined $300

John Cashion, election registrar at Wilkesboro, N. C., was fined $300 in the United States district court during May and placed on probation for three years after being found guilty on fourteen counts charging him with refusing to register qualified Negro voters in the congressional election of 1934. The action against Cashion was taken only after the North Carolina disfranchised voters led by Prof. W. H. Hannum of Livingstone college, Salisbury, N. C., and the national office of the N. A. A. C. P. in New York had kept persistently after the attorney general in Washington over a period of fifteen months.

University of Missouri Slurs Lincoln University (Mo.)

In its answer to a suit which seeks to force it to admit a Negro student to the school of law, the University of Missouri has replied that Lincoln university of Missouri, the state's college for Negroes, is not an accredited institution and therefore that its graduates are not eligible to apply to the University of Missouri.

Lloyd Gaines of St. Louis is suing the university to get it to admit him to the school of law. He is a graduate of Lincoln university, located at Jefferson City, Mo. This is the first time in suits of this nature that the regular state universities have set up the defense that the Negro university in that state is not accredited. According to latest advice, the hearing on the University of Missouri case will be held July 10. Sidney R. Redmond of the St. Louis branch and Charles H. Houston of the New York office are counsel for Gaines.

Late in June the taking of proof in the action brought by William B. Redmond, 2nd, to force the University of Tennessee to admit him to its school of pharmacy was begun.

Anti-lynching Film is Hit in New York

"Fury," the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer anti-lynching film which opened at the Capitol theatre in New York June 5, was held over for a third week because of the demand from the public. The N. A. A. C. P. has pronounced the film one of the strongest educational features against lynching that has ever been placed before the public and it urges anti-lynching workers everywhere to see the film, to ask their favorite theatre to book it, and to write Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Hollywood, Calif., commending the company for its courage in dealing with lynching on the screen. Spencer Tracy and Sylvia Sidney are the stars of the story.

Ickes, White, Speakers at Harlem Housing Project

Harold L. Ickes, secretary of the Interior and administrator of the PWA, was the principal speaker at the celebration of the completion of the foundations for Harlem River Houses June 20, at 153rd street and McCombs place, New York City. The project is to cost $4,000,000 when completed and will provide low-cost homes for 574 families. Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., and Mayor F. H. LaGuardia were other speakers.

Branch News

On Sunday, May 17, the **Bayonne, N. J.**, branch opened its annual spring membership drive with a tea under the auspices of the Ladies' Auxiliary at Wallace Temple, A.M.E.Z. church. Dr. John E. Watts of Vaux Hall and Dr. Clement De Freitas of Plainfield, were the speakers. The auxiliary also had charge of the membership drive which ended June 5.

Benjamin T. Johnson of New London was leader of the meeting and forum of the **Hartford, Conn.**, branch May 18 at St. Monica's P.E. church parish house. He discussed "The Negro's Present Fight for Freedom."

The **Tacoma, Wash.**, branch sponsored an address by G. E. Washington, state coordinator of WPA adult education, in a public meeting at Bethlehem Baptist church May 17. C. A. Hunster conducted the singing. The junior association held its study hour with Mrs. Nettie J. Asberry.

J. F. Crawford was the principal speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the **Beloit, Wis.**, branch May 17, at the New Zion Baptist church.

The monthly meeting of the **Scranton, Pa.**, branch was held May 11 at the Progressive Recreation and Social Service Association center. Mrs. Zenobia J. Dorsey, president, and Mrs. Bessie Smith, secretary, were in charge.

The **Topeka, Kans.**, branch held a meeting in the Shiloh Baptist church. Great interest was evidenced in the Scottsboro case and an entertainment was arranged to assist in the defense and also for cooperation and assistance for the sharecroppers. The membership campaign opened at this meeting with A. W. Martin of Pittsburg as the speaker. The next meeting will be held at St. John's A.M.E. church. Elisha Scott is president.

Nearly fifty persons attended a potluck dinner and meeting given by the executive board of the **Decatur, Ill.**, branch May 14. L. J. Winston, president, was host. Work of the organization was discussed by Edward Jacobs, Dr. J. C. Ellis, Mrs. Thomas Glass, M. L. McClerkin, E. H. Dansby and Mr. Winston.

The membership committee and those working on the membership drive met with the executive board of the **Licking County, O.**, branch at the home of Mrs. Louise Moore May 19.

The **Winston-Salem, N. C.**, branch met May 12 at the First Institutional Baptist church and at St. Paul, M.E. church May 17. W. Avery Jones is president.

All citizens were urged to attend the mass meeting of the **Richmond, Va.**, branch May 12 at Ebenezer Baptist church in the interest of a mid-year membership drive. Dr. W. M. Ransome made a report concerning the recent attitude of the city school board in reference to the construction of a new high school for Negroes. There was a discussion of applications to be made under the recent scholarship bill enacted at the last session of the Virginia legislature. Wiley Hall, Byron J. Hopkins, the Rev. R. S. Anderson and the Rev. S. G. Stevenson were the speakers.

The annual membership campaign of the **Cleveland, O.**, branch, under the direction of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, closed May 26. Chester K. Gillespie, president of the branch, spoke May 2 over station WJAY on "Why I Will March in the Peace Parade."

The **Little Rock, Ark.**, branch met at the First Congregational church May 10.

A dance given by the **Newburgh, N. Y.**, branch in Labor Temple May 1, attracted many visitors. Music was by Joe Jacobs and his Harlem Maniacs. George Ford was chairman. Guests attended from Kingston, Poughkeepsie, Beacon, Middletown and other surrounding towns and villages.

Captains and workers in the annual membership campaign of the **New Castle, Pa.**, branch had a report meeting May 6 with William Howard, campaign director, presiding.

The executive board of the **South Bend, Ind.**, branch met May 2 to perfect plans for the 27th annual conference to be held in Baltimore, Md., and to prepare for the coming of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary.

The **Lawrence, Kans.**, branch held its second meeting May 7 at St. Luke's A.M.E. church. Temporary officers were elected and plans were made for a membership drive.

The membership drive of the **Portsmouth, O.**, branch closed May 2. Reports were made at the regular meeting May 5.

LeRoy Williams, president, presided at the monthly meeting of the **Newport, R. I.**, branch May 13. The meeting was the beginning of a membership drive of which Richard W. King is chairman. The drive closed June 10 with Martin L. Canavan as the guest speaker. On May 16 a tag day netted $36 for the branch. Mrs. Richard King was chairman of the committee in charge.

Assisting on the committee were Mrs. J. N. Bailey, secretary; Mrs. J. Burney, Miss Florence Jackson, Mrs. Lena Brogden, Mrs. Bessie Jackson and Mrs. Annabelle Hawkins, Arthur Williams and L. Faison. They included Lillian Thompson who made the largest returns, Viola May Shirley, Robert Williams and Gilbert Williams. The money will be applied to the expense of delegates to the annual national conference in Baltimore, June 29-July 5.

The **Springfield, Mass.**, branch held its monthly meeting May 6 in Olivet Community House. The final report on the membership campaign was made and a summary was made of the nine talks made at the April meeting.

The banquet by the junior division of the **Des Moines, Ia.**, branch which was scheduled for April 28 was postponed until May 5.

Dean William Pickens, director of branches, addressed the **Monrovia, Calif.**, branch May 3 at the Second Baptist church. First Lieut. Wm. W. Robinson is president and Mrs. Delia C. Jackson is secretary.

May 16 was Monrovia Day, an annual affair sponsored by the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce and celebrated by a big parade. The branch had a beautifully decorated float representing its business office and facilities, and won the first prize of their division.

On May 4 Dean Pickens spoke at the First Baptist church on behalf of the Emergency Peace Campaign at Santa Barbara, Calif. He spoke at Calvary Baptist church in San Diego, Calif., May 13.

Miss Mary Smith, contralto, and Joseph James, baritone, were the featured soloists at a meeting of the **Pasadena, Calif.**, branch held at Friendship church. Dean Pickens made the principal address. The program was held to help promote an association drive for 500 members.

Because the N.A.A.C.P. state oratorical contest was postponed until June, the juniors of the **Morristown, N. J.**, branch postponed their contest until a later date. A special meeting of the members was held Friday, May 22.

The annual membership drive of the **Youngstown, O.**, branch began May 11 with a meeting at the West Federal Y, with 500 members as their goal.

The juniors of the **Tacoma, Wash.**, branch held the best meeting of this season May 16. Colored writers and their works was the subject of the meeting and many names of authors were enumerated together with quotations and excerpts from their books. An exhibition of books by colored writers from Mrs. Asbery's library was an added feature. Contestants were selected for the membership campaign. Many musical selections were rendered and a social hour followed the study hour.

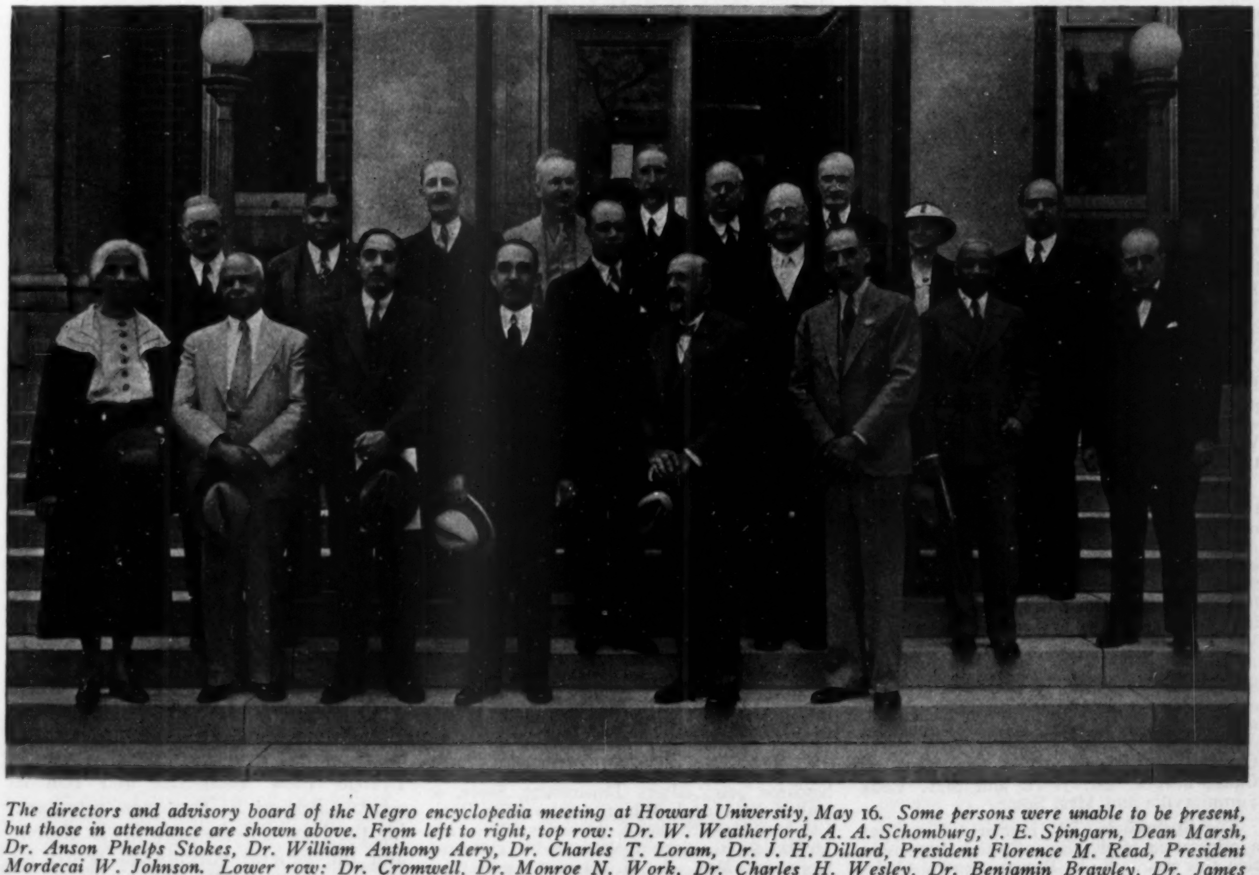
As a part of the membership drive of the **Santa Monica, Calif.**, branch Dean William Pickens gave a lecture at Calvary Baptist Church May 28.

The **Lansing, Mich.**, branch met Sunday, May 24, at the A.M.E. church. The subject "Child Delinquency" was discussed.

Dr. Alice M. Guy won the cup presented by J. Mercer Burrell for the largest list of new members brought in during the recent drive of the **Newark, N. J.**, branch.

F. D. Frank was the principal speaker at the May 27 meeting of the **Troy, N. Y.**, branch. George B. Kelly, president, presided. J. Hudson Lockhart is vice-president and Nurney J. Harrel, treasurer; Mrs. Jane Reese, secretary.

Dean Pickens was the chief speaker at the thirty-fifth annual dinner meeting of



The directors and advisory board of the Negro encyclopedia meeting at Howard University, May 16. Some persons were unable to be present, but those in attendance are shown above. From left to right, top row: Dr. W. Weatherford, A. A. Schomburg, J. E. Spingarn, Dean Marsh, Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes, Dr. William Anthony Aery, Dr. Charles T. Loram, Dr. J. H. Dillard, President Florence M. Read, President Mordecai W. Johnson. Lower row: Dr. Cromwell, Dr. Monroe N. Work, Dr. Charles H. Wesley, Dr. Benjamin Brawley, Dr. James Weldon Johnson, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Eugene Kinckle Jones, Dr. Alain Locke, Dr. Leland the Municipal League of Los Angeles May 27 at the Royal Palms Hotel. He discussed "The Sharecroppers of the South."

Dr. Leon Scott, president of the **New Rochelle, N. Y.**, branch attended the Westchester County Youth Conference at the Chester Hill M.E. church, Mount Vernon, May 30.

The annual membership drive of the **Cleveland, O.**, branch passed the $2,000 mark and secured about 225 subscriptions for THE CRISIS. Charles H. Lake, superintendent of schools, spoke to the branch on local educational problems June 1.

The **Albany, N. Y.**, branch held its regular meetings during April and May. After details of the Bryant case were reported the meeting was turned over to Mr. Bruce of the Interracial Council who asked Miss Helen Fraser to introduce the speaker, Dr. Thompson of State Teachers' College who lectured on Negro spirituals and folklore. Opinions of James Weldon Johnson and the recent work of Zora Neale Hurston were discussed. At the May meeting the branch pledged to continue to support James Bryant as long as they felt that he had been taken advantage of and as long as he pleaded not guilty to the charge. Since he thought it was best for him to plead guilty and throw himself on the mercy of the court the branch has been unable to assist him further. On June 2 a committee from the branch consisting of two prominent citizens of Albany and the secretary of the Interracial Council and Dr. Joseph B. Robinson, president of the branch, visited the Albany Business College executives to secure a statement from them about their refusal to admit Negro students to the school. It was decided to put this question up to the students and the branch would be told the result shortly afterwards. The Business College is a private institution receiving no support from public funds. The junior work committee was visited by Miss Juanita Jackson of the national office staff May 26.

The juniors of the **Chester, Pa.**, branch held their regular monthly meeting in the Wilson Memorial Day Nursery. This year when the junior branch entertained the senior branch they presented Mrs. Arthur King of Media who discussed "Innate and Expressed Powers of Negro Youth." Mrs. Ella Maloney rendered a vocal solo and Miss Mary Maloney rendered a piano solo. Miss Evelyn Morgan read a paper and the Asbury Junior Choir sang. Willard Brown, the president of the junior branch, presided. Other officers are: Cecil Bond, vice-president; Evelyn Morgan, secretary; Wyzetta Sammons, corresponding secretary; Doris Willard, treasurer.

It has been decided that the secretary of the **St. Louis, Mo.**, branch will send in news of the activities of the branch each month. About $1,300 has been raised in the membership drive and they hope to reach the $1,500 mark before long. The branch has been kept busy protesting and investigating discrimination against Negroes on WPA projects.

Dean Pickens spoke on "Why the Negro Should Join the N.A.A.C.P." The meeting marked the close of a successful membership drive. Among the distinguished guests present were Attorney Thomas L. Griffith, president of the **Los Angeles, Calif.**, branch, Dr. J. H. and Mrs. Vada Summerville and Mrs. Scott.

The **Springfield, Ill.**, branch will sponsor a celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation this year. E. L. Rogers, general chairman, called a meeting of all interested persons Friday, June 12, at the Illinois Conservatory office.

The annual membership drive of the **Duluth, Minn.**, branch began May 25. A goal of 500 members was set. R. J. Simmons is president of the branch.

A campaign to obtain 300 members was begun by the **Grand Rapids, Mich.**, branch. John M. Burgess was general chairman with the Rev. Albert C. Keith as his assistant. Mrs. Trilby Jones was associate general chairman; Mrs. Bessie Parker, chairman of the women's division and Bruce Walker, chairman of the men's division. The first report was made June 5. The captains are as follows:

Women's division, Mrs. Margaret Price, Mrs. Lucy McElwee, Mrs. Sheppie Owens, Mrs. Jennora G. Brown, Mrs. Ora Lee Grant and Mrs. Trilby Jones. Men's divison, Robert L. Hutchins, Joe Cassel, Coy Davis, Ralph Grant, S. L. Manning and Howard Clarke.

The chairmen of the various committees are as follows: Mrs. Ethel Coe, speaker's bureau; Mrs. Floyd H. Skinner, publicity; Atty. Floyd H. Skinner, special gifts. Mrs. Lula Johnson is campaign secretary.

Progress in Negro education during the last century was traced by Charles H. Houston, special counsel, at commencement exercises of Crispus Attucks high school in Indianapolis, Ind., June 2.

The Governor Herbert H. Lehman trophy, won by Miss Winifred Vanderlip in the New York State oratorical contest sponsored by the N.A.A.C.P., was presented to her at a dinner by the **White Plains, N. Y.**, branch at the White Tower Lodge June 11. The trophy was presented by James E. Allen, president of the **New York, N. Y.**, branch. J. A. Ross, New Rochelle attorney, was master of ceremonies. Caleb Peterson of Peekskill, who won the National Dramatic Declamation championship of the National Forensics League at Oklahoma City, and Miss Dudonna Tate of White Plains, who finished second in the state oratorical contest, were also feted.

The **Albuquerque, N. M.**, branch closed one of its most successful membership drives April 15, realizing $107 in memberships. Dean William Pickens, director of branches, spoke to six different groups. Besides the large mass meeting sponsored by the branch, he addressed a labor group on March 29, a ladies club, the white M. E. church and the student and faculty at the City high school. His most enthusiastic audience, however, was the student and faculty at the University of New Mexico, where he was invited to speak by the department of government. Miss Madeline Houston, one of the branch's state speakers, sent 24 memberships from Roswell, N. M., where she teaches.

Dr. S. H. Catlett directed a card tournament given by the members of the auxiliary of the **Oranges, N. J.**, branch early in May. Mrs. Gladys P. Bell headed the refreshment committee and Mrs. Mary E. Christian headed the prize committee. Miss Inez R. Patterson, president of the branch, asked the audience to sign cards petitioning the Democratic senator from the State of New Jersey to be present at the Democratic caucus and vote favorably for the anti-lynching bill. The following prizes were donated: Mrs. Emily J. Banks, the oldest active member in the community, $5; Mrs. M. H. Perkins, card table; Dr. Vernon Bunce, a ham; Mrs. Rita Sutherland, a nut set; Engles Department Store, two luncheon sets; Muirs Department Store, a fruit dish; Mrs. I. White, a cake dish; Pusy Co. and Mrs. Stannard, groceries; Mrs. M. McDaniels, six dessert plates and a cigarette box and Mrs. J. H. Bynum, groceries. Officers of the auxiliary are: Mrs. Cora Johnson, president; Mrs. B. Hunter, vice-president; Mrs. Blanche Morton, secretary; Mrs. Roberta Coleman, treasurer.

Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the national office, spoke at the regular meeting of the branch. Several committees were appointed to work in connection with the many efforts of the branch: Mrs. M. Mason, chairman of the membership drive; Mrs. Alma Bushell Morse, chairman of state conference program; Winston Melvin, chairman of the oratorical contest and Mrs. Cora Johnson, chairman of the conference reception committee, registration and housing. The officers of the branch are: Inez R. Patterson, president; Mrs. M. Mason, vice-president; Mrs. Mary E. Christian, treasurer; Miss Lottie Hodge, secretary; Mrs. Helen Polk, youth council adviser; Dr. Walter Bongshore, youth council adviser and Mrs. Alma B. Morse and Colson Woody junior youth advisers.

Texas Farmers

(*Continued from page 212*)

portion of families of various sizes among the Negroes now living in this area. In order to prevent houses being standardized in appearance, several different plans will be used and there will be a variation in color schemes, in relation of the houses to the roadway, and in grouping of outbuildings and in landscaping. Interiors will also be varied by different combinations of materials and colors.

A community building has been planned which will include an auditorium, stage, sewing room, library and a kitchen for cooking and canning. This will be centrally located on a plot of about 100 acres, along with a community park and playground. The manager of the project will be a white man, and he will have a farmstead near the community building. He will have a Negro assistant.

A number of cooperative enterprises is planned for the project, including a meat-curing and storage plant, sweet potato storage plant and syrup mill and blending plant. These will be not only for those actually living on the project but also for other Negro farmers within that area.

This project has received the indorsement of Dr. T. W. Walton, president of Texas A. and M. College; Gov. James V. Allred, governor of Texas; Hon. M. G. Blalock, chairman of state Democratic executive committee; Hon. Wright Patman, congressman from the First District, Texas; Hon. Morris Sheppard, senior senator from Texas; Hon. Tom Connally, junior senator from Texas; Principal W. R. Banks, of Prairie View Industrial and Normal school; Bishop R. E. Jones, representing the New Orleans area M. E. church, and the general educational board for Negro education, New York City.

Condemned Again to Chain Gang

Angelo Herndon

The Georgia supreme court on June 13 overruled the lower court and declared Angelo Herndon must serve his sentence of 18-20 years on the chain gang. Herndon was convicted in 1932 at Atlanta, Ga. under an old law against "insurrection." Herndon's offense at the time of his arrest was that he got together a group of white and colored people on relief to march to the City Hall and ask for a bigger relief allowance. The state claimed to have found literature in his possession of such a nature as to warrant the charge of "insurrection."

Herndon was confined to jail for some months while bail money was being raised, but he has not as yet served any time on the chain gang. He has been defended by a joint committee of liberal and radical organizations. His original bail was $15,000, but last fall when Judge Hugh M. Dorsey of the Georgia circuit court ruled that the law under which he was convicted was "too vague" to be constitutional the bail was reduced to $8,000, and since that time Herndon has been in the North lecturing and writing.

The decision of the Georgia court will be appealed to the United States supreme court without delay by Whitney North Seymour, attorney retained by organizations interested in Herndon's freedom.

No Color Line in State Federation of Labor So Alabama Lawyer Quits

John W. Altman of Birmingham, Alabama, who for twenty years has been general counsel for the Alabama State Federation of Labor, has resigned his post because the Federation has accepted Negroes into full membership with no color line and has given them free activity in framing policy and in serving on committees, etc.

So outraged was Mr. Altman at this demonstration of democracy in the labor movement that he placed a large display advertisement in Birmingham daily papers early in May reading as follows:

"I make this statement to the members of Organized Labor as a personal privilege; it has no relation either directly or indirectly with any candidate or any race for political office.

"The last convention of the Alabama State Federation of Labor was held at Florence commencing April 27th and ending April 30th—I was there.

"For more than 20 years I served the State Federation as General Counsel, gave attention to all legal problems, and to numerous matters of consultation and advice; gave the services cheerfully, happily and faithfully without the charge of one penny to the Federation.

"Of course, I knew that in certain of our labor organizations Negroes were admitted as members. Respecting the Negro race I yield to no man in the State of Alabama a truer conception of their rights, place and position and of the proper consideration and duty the white man owes to them.

"Until the meeting at Florence recently I had seen no objectionable condition caused by the admission of Negroes as members of some labor organizations. At the Alabama State Federation of Labor Convention at Florence, I saw a number of white women delegates, a number of white men delegates and more than 150 Negro delegates. I saw the entire machinery of the convention seized and controlled by Mitch in cooperation with a Negro named Walter Jones whom Mitch referred to as 'Mister' Jones. I saw white men, officials of the State Federation and would-be-officials of the State Federation, moved by selfish, degrading ambitions, lose their pride and their manhood and traffick and trade with and bow to the will and domination of Mitch and of Walter Jones and the Negro delegates. I saw the presiding officer of the State Federation of Labor name Mitch as Chairman of the Committee on the Constitution and I saw him name the members of that Committee so as to give Mitch control. I saw the resolution from that Committee headed by Mitch which put the General Counsel in the hands of and under the domination and control of the Executive Board which itself was controlled by Mitch by virtue of his backing of Negro delegates.

"I saw the delegates, white women, white men and Negroes, line up on the street to have their pictures taken together. I have a copy of the picture.

"I saw the Negro, Walter Jones, in the convention argue against and dispute and denounce the argument of a man of years' standing in the ranks of Organized Labor. I saw the Negro offer a motion and carry it despite the efforts of white men and women in the convention; my very being revolted and I withdrew from connection with the Federation.

"After the convention adjourned

I saw written evidence of the attempt of Mitch to control the politics of this State.

"I have cast my lot where it always has been, side by side and shoulder to shoulder with the white membership of Organized Labor in Alabama.

"I have no respect for any man of white skin who has attained a position of prestige, honor or profit by the vote of these Negroes controlled and dominated by Mitch and led by Walter Jones.

"I shall continue to fight for the preservation of the organization of Labor in Alabama and for the best interests of our people of Organized Labor.

"Respectfully,

(Signed) JOHN W. ALTMAN"

"Deep South"

By JAMES ADRIAN SANDERS

Deep South,
Thy once verdant fields are crimson now.
But not from the blood of martyrs shed.
Thy hilltops all blaze with living fire,
But not from the beacon light of Justice.
The echoes shrill through thy woodlands dense,
Come not from the Sportman's merry call,
Deep South.

Deep South,
That crimson, blameless black men's blood;
Those living fires human torches are;
And the echoes shrill through thy woodlands
Are the frenzied howl of mobsters mad.
So long this thy savage state remains
May men's scorn and Heaven's curse be thine,
Deep South.

Deep South,
Purge that stain from thy sunkissed prairies;
Plant Justice's light on thy hilltops high;
Cause thy woodlands to echo the call
Of all thy sons in freedoms domain.
Men in distant climes will sing thy praise,
And Heaven's blessings be thine through time
Deep South.

Let Them Blow Taps

By WESLEY CURTWRIGHT

Let them blow taps
Over our love—
The love of the Chocolate Soldier and the Gingerbread Doll.
I am still a soldier,
You a lovely doll—
But let them blow taps. . . .

Closed Doors

By MARGARET ADELAIDE SHAW

You who find closed doors before you
Turn not bitter while you wait
Work and grow for nothing shrivels
Up the soul like burning hate.

Work and lift the things you fashion
Higher with each passing sun
Take no thought of bolted doors
They shall open, every one.

Samuel B. Wilkins

Mr. Wilkins, night supervisor of the linotype department of the Pittsburgh *Courier,* became the first colored member of the International Typographical Union Local No. 7 of this city on June 14. Mr. Wilkins was unanimously endorsed by the membership investigating committee and was accepted into the union with only three dissenting votes. For many years Mr. Wilkins has been a top ranking linotype operator and has been employed by the C. K. Robinson Printing Co. of St. Louis, the St. Louis *Argus,* the Kansas City *Call,* Kansas City *American* and the Baltimore *Afro-American.* He is a native of St. Louis, Mo.

CRISIS AIDED BY COMMITTEE OF NEW YORK WOMEN

A movement to aid THE CRISIS has been started by a committee of women in New York which has taken the name of the New York Crisis Committee. Methods of assisting the magazine take two forms: (1) the enrolling of annual sponsors and associate sponsors, and (2) the giving of benefit entertainments.

Sponsors agree to contribute five dollars a year and associate sponsors three dollars a year. For these contributions they receive a year's subscription, the surplus over the regular subscription price of $1.50 per year going as a gift to the magazine. The idea of sponsorships was adopted because most magazines which are the official organ of "causes" or a particular social or economic philosophy do not earn enough money commercially to keep themselves alive. Practically every organ for a cause is subsidized in some manner. The *Survey,* leading magazine of social work, is enabled to keep publishing because it has an organization known as "The Survey Associates." Each member of it contributes $10 a year to the magazine. The *Nation* has a wealthy sponsor who assumes the annual deficit. The *New Republic* has an endowment fund. The publications of the left wing groups are also subsidized by contributions, entertainments, etc.

It is the intention of the New York Committee to enroll as many persons as possible as sponsors and associate sponsors and it is hoped that persons in other cities of the country will organize for the same purpose. Information about organizing a Crisis Committee may be secured by writing to THE CRISIS office which will refer the correspondence to the officers of the New York group.

The New York Committee, in addition to soliciting sponsorships, plans to give at least one benefit entertainment each year. The first is scheduled for July 8 at the Savoy ball room in Harlem.

Officers of the New York Committee are: Chairman, Miss Lucille Armistead; Secretary, Miss Louise Logan; Treasurer, Miss Alice Simms. Mrs. Ollie Ray Mills is chairman of the entertainment committee which is arranging the benefit dance for July 8. The committee met first as a very small group in March. Shortly after the first meeting a tea was held for the purpose of securing members of the committee. On May 24 another tea was given for the general public. At this affair no collection was taken and no admission charged, but the persons in attendance were informed of the objectives of the committee and invited to support it. The following persons have become sponsors or associate sponsors:

Dr. Myra Logan, Louise Logan, Geraldine Dismond, Mrs. Eunice H. Carter, Mrs. Sarah Dunstan, Alice Simms, Mrs. Margaret Douglas, Elisabeth Rogers, Lillian Espy, Mrs. Helen Harden, Frances Williams, E. Simms Campbell, Mary White Ovington, Mrs. Chrystal Lunceford, Lucille Armistead, Robert Estill, Jr., Oswald C. Newton, Amanda Kemp, Florence Thomas, Mrs. Inez Wilson, Hubert Delany, Cab Calloway, Marion Smith, Betty Lyle, Dr. Louis T. Wright, Richetta G. Randolph, Oceola Adams, Dr. Reuben Young, Vera Marshall, Rosalind Sewell, Alberta Edmonson.

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LETTERS from READERS

Visits Scottsboro Boys

To THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—I am an Alabaman, born and reared in Mobile. I have lived practically all my life in the South. Last winter I spent several months in New York and became interested in the colored people here. It was not long before I ran into the Scottsboro case—from the viewpoint of those outside of Alabama. It was all new to me, the colored people in New York, and the intense interest in those nine boys. I am afraid I had been indifferent, just as are many of my people in the South and particularly in Alabama.

This spring I went home for a brief visit, but just prior to my leaving I attended several rallies for the Scottsboro defendants and while I don't agree altogether with some of the defenders or their political philosophy, I find myself heart and soul with them in their belief in the innocence of the boys. I determined to do what little I could on my visit. After seeing my family I went to Birmingham and spent an hour and a half with the boys through special permission of the authorities. I found them in fine spirits the day I was there, but of course the confinement over all these years for a crime they could not have committed (according to the evidence) must be terribly depressing to them at times. They were neatly dressed and talked freely and cheerfully, although poor Ozie Powell has a paralyzed right arm. He said he preferred not to discuss the shooting of himself by Sheriff Sandlin.

This visit and my contacts with some of the cultured and refined colored people of New York have given me a new insight into my fellow man. I hope earnestly that the time will come when we all can be just and charitable to each other, regardless of race or color or religion. It is stupid and cruel to treat the colored people as they have been treated. Often I am ashamed for my race and I do not wonder that there is distrust of the sincerity of white people by colored people. All of us, however, are not bad, just as all colored people are not bad. We of both races who deplore this situation and want to do something about it should trust each other and work together.

FRANCES LEVKOFF

New York, N. Y.

Guide For Motorists

A special service for motorists, including useful information on friendly hotels, tourist camps, rooming houses and private homes, is offered to colored motorists by the Conoco Travel Bureau. In order to secure this service, motorists should write to Conoco Travel Bureau, Denver, Colorado, stating where they plan to travel and asking for the special service for Negroes.

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